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IT'S WHAT SUNDAYS ARE ALL ABOUT

No. 316 October 12, 2008



PLUS: LATEST ON THE MODERN VAN IN OUR SPECIAL COMMERCIAL VEHICLE FEATURE

PAYING THE PRICE OF OBESITY CRISIS

Think-tank wants medical rationing for the overweight

By **JENNA PUDELEK**
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OBESE and overweight patients cost Kent's NHS more than £564 million last year.

The country's 'biggest health challenge' will cost taxpayers an extra £62m a year in Kent alone by 2015, according to new figures from the Department of Health.

The total NHS cost of diseases related to being overweight and obese in the UK is set to go up from £17.4 billion in 2007 to £22.9bn by 2050.

A recent magazine survey of doctors found that more than half believed the NHS should not fund treatment for diseases linked to obesity.

Richard D North, a spokesman for the right-wing think-tank, The Social Affairs Unit, has called for obesity treatment to be rationed.

Greed

"Why is obesity medicalised?" he told Kent on Sunday. "One of the reasons we need GPs to ration access to expensive medical treatment for obesity is that they can send some fat people away saying their problem is idleness and greed."

He said in an ideal world the obese would take responsibility for their actions and pay for their healthcare, but that it would never happen.

This week, Public Health Minister Dawn Primarolo, said: "Obesity is the biggest health challenge we face – every year 9,000 people die prematurely."

A Kent spokesman for the British Medical Association said overweight people should have the same healthcare access as everyone else.

"Should people who drive cars not be treated if they crash?" Dr Gary Calver, a GP in Folkestone, said.

"Our behaviour interacts with our genetics and you can end up with some sort of illness. But if you start excluding people, then you would exclude all of the population.

"People have made their life choices and as a society we need to help them recognise the risks so they can modify them. If that fails then we need to support them."

Dr Calver said he had seen a noticeable increase in cases of diabetes, which is closely linked to obesity.

The National Obesity Forum this week called for morbidly obese children to be taken into care.

Dr Calver said: "It is difficult enough being a child without stigmatising them and removing them from their families."

He blamed the loss of domestic science from schools, saying society is "now reaping some of the problems".

Unhealthy eating and lifestyle choice run through families, he said – and there is not going to be a quick fix.



IDLENESS: Richard North says medical treatment for obese should be rationed

He added: "We cannot, in two to three years, reduce the weight of the population by 10 per cent.

"It is one of the greatest challenges in health – helping people to change the way we live."

Commenting on the national obesity figures, Andrew Lansley, the Tories' shadow health secretary, said: "We need to invest in efforts to reduce weight and to improve exercise and diet in order to prevent obesity, before the costs to our health service increase even further."

Diseases related to people being overweight and obese cost Kent's five primary care trusts (PCTs) £564.2 in 2007. That is set to rise to £626.3bn in 2015.

Kent's obesity crisis is most pronounced in the east of the county, where it cost Eastern and Coastal Kent PCT £200m last year.

Asked whether the PCT had failed to realise the scale of the problem, its public health specialist, Claire Martin, said: "It is not that we have not been working on this."

She said a recent emphasis on the problem from the Government has allowed PCTs to invest more in long-term strategies targeting young children so that the next generation is healthier than the current.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



Thunderbirds are go!

SEE INSIDE



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‘People need to know what an unhealthy diet is and exercise’

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

Thanet and Swale were flagged up as areas where obesity is most prevalent. Ms Martin said although there is a correlation between being overweight and socio-economic class the problem is more complex.

Nicky Ling, the obesity specialist at Medway PCT, said: “Obesity causes lots of problems. It can affect fertility, cause diabetes, heart disease and certain cancers.”

The PCT spent £70m last year treating the problem and has had an obesity strategy since 2005 to tackle it.

Mrs Ling said: “A common misconception is that people just eat too much but people are obese for a lot of reasons. They could be comfort eating, which is a kind of eating disorder.

“People can turn to food in the way some people turn to drugs or alcohol.

“I think people know what an unhealthy diet is and know that they need to exercise it is the motivation to do it.”

The PCTs have launched various initiatives to tackle the problem such as MEND (Mind Exercise Nutrition Do-it), which provides family based programmes to prevent and treat obesity.

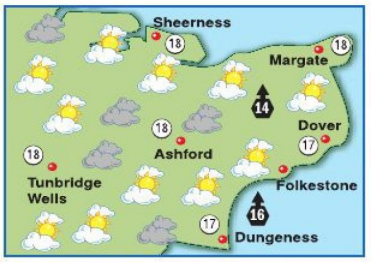
“Families are critical,” said Val Miller, public health specialist for NHS West Kent.

“The Healthy Schools programme works in a holistic way creating individual plans about healthy eating, physical activity and improving the health of staff as well as pupils.”

ESTIMATED ANNUAL COSTS TO NHS OF DISEASES RELATED TO OVERWEIGHT AND OBESITY (£ MILLION)

	2007	2010	2015
Bexley Care Trust	55.5	55.7	61.6
Bromley PCT	77.2	80.1	85.7
Eastern & Coastal Kent PCT	201.8	209.5	224
Medway PCT	69.7	72.3	77.4
West Kent PCT	160	166.1	177.6
Total	564.2	585.6	626.3

Kent today



TODAY: It will be a dry but misty and foggy start to the day. Staying dry with sunny spells developing later. Moderate southerly winds. Max temp 17-20C (63-68F).
TONIGHT: Staying dry with clear spells and glimpses of the moon. There will be gentle south-westerly winds. Min temp 10-13C (50-55F).

Around Britain

		°C	°F			°C	°F
Aberdeen	cloudy	13	55	London	cloudy	17	63
Belfast	fair	18	64	Liverpool	fair	20	68
Birmingham	cloudy	15	59	Manchester	cloudy	17	63
B’mouth	cloudy	18	64	Newcastle	fair	16	61
Bristol	fair	17	63	Norwich	fair	18	64
Cardiff	cloudy	18	64	Oxford	cloudy	18	64
Cork	cloudy	14	57	Southsea	fair	18	64
Edinburgh	cloudy	15	59	S’hampton	cloudy	17	63
Glasgow	cloudy	15	59	Southport	sun	18	64
Isle of Man	cloudy	15	59	Swansea	fair	16	61
Leeds	cloudy	16	61	Torquay	cloudy	17	63

Sun & moon

Sunrise	7.15am	Sunset	6.08pm	Lighting up times:
Moonrise	4.58pm	Moonset	4.06am	6.08pm to 7.17am

High Tides

	today				tomorrow			
	ht (m)		ht (m)		ht (m)		ht (m)	
Dover	10.02	6.1	22.21	6.2	10.36	6.4	22.54	6.5
Margate	10.47	4.3	23.24	4.5	11.27	4.5	–	–
St Mary’s	03.38	4.9	15.53	5.3	04.15	5.3	16.31	5.6

Week ahead

monday Cloudy. Dry. max 20C min 12C
tuesday Cloudy. Dry. max 19C min 12C
wednesday Cloudy. Dry. max 17C min 10C
thursday Isolated showers. max 16C min 9C
friday Isolated showers. max 16C min 9C
saturday Cloudy. Dry. max 16C min 8C

Iceland’s £64m chill will not hit services

By **STEVE KNIGHT** and **JAMIE McGINNES**
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

Pledge to county taxpayers after assets frozen by banking crisis

TAXPAYERS in Kent have been assured that council services will not suffer despite tens of millions of pounds being invested in crisis-hit Icelandic banks.

Kent County Council had assets worth £50 million frozen by the Icelandic government after the collapse of the nation’s banking system – with no guarantee yet that the money will be protected.

In addition, five of the county’s local councils have £14m of investments at risk, although bosses at Dartford and Thanet – which have no money in Iceland – said they knew of the dangers before this week.

Cllr Martin Wise, Thanet’s cabinet member for finance, said: “Investment of funds has been a challenging area for the council over recent weeks and months, especially with the rapidly changing global situation.

“It is down to the diligent work of our officers, who are continually monitoring our investments, that the money we did have invested with Icelandic banks was withdrawn a few weeks ago.”

And a spokesman for Dartford council said: “The vulnerability of Icelandic banks has been highlighted by our advisors for the last two years.”

Chancellor Alistair Darling announced this week that all UK savers affected by the Icelandic bank crisis would be protected, but the same has not yet been offered for the more than £900 million known to have been invested by councils, police and transport authorities.

A Treasury delegation was due to meet with officials in Iceland on Friday to discuss the way forward. KCC leader Cllr Paul Carter said that despite £50 million being at risk, the council did not have a liquidity problem and that services, salaries and pensions would not be hit.

Invest

He added that if there were greater confidence in Britain’s banks, the council would have no need to invest abroad.

Cllr Carter said: “British taxpayers’ money should be in British banks, but we need the Government to guarantee that public money will be safe. If we have this assurance we will invest all of our assets in British banks.”

Cllr Carter has now written to the Local Government Association (LGA) and central government, asking them to consider redirecting the invested money back into the British banking system.

Kent taxpayers’ money – a total of £50m out of a KCC budget of £2.6 billion and pension fund of £2bn – is deposited in three banks. These are Glitnir (£15m), Landsbanki (£17m) and the Heritable Bank (£18m).

A Kent Police Authority official said there were no short-term liquidity problems for the force, as the £11.1m it had invested in Icelandic banks represented a “small proportion of our total assets”.

That figure forms part of KCC’s £50m total.

The only local councils with money at risk were Canterbury (£6m), Bromley (£5m) and Tonbridge and Malling, Dover and Sevenoaks (£1m each).

The LGA, in a joint statement with the Government, said there had been “no evidence of recklessness” by local authorities investing in Icelandic banks.

It continued: “The financial framework for local authorities, which requires them to strike an appropriate balance between security of investments and returns, appears to have been adhered to.

“It has been agreed that once the LGA has completed its analysis of the effects of the situation on individual local authorities, we will look at issues arising on a case-by-case basis.”

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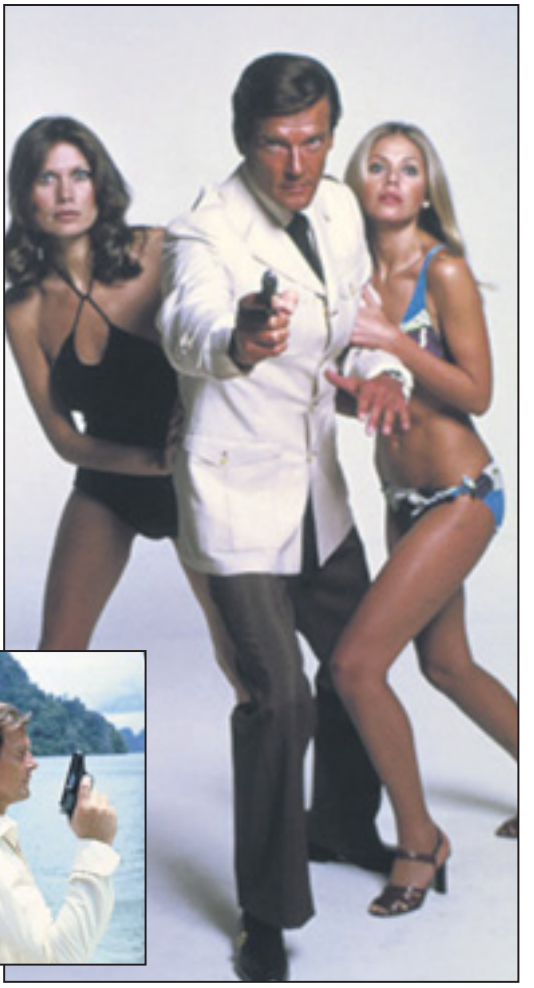
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The smoothest Bond ever has book-signing in his sights

Moore the merrier as Bluewater awaits 007

SUAVE, stylish and with a raised eyebrow that speaks volumes, Sir Roger Moore will be in Kent this week to sign copies of his latest book.

By **CHRIS MURPHY**
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk





ROGER AND IN: Guns, gadgets, exotic locations and girls are an essential part of Bond's appeal Inset, Bond duels with Scaramanga, the man with the golden gun, played by Christopher Lee

Best known for his performances as 007 superspy James Bond and Simon Templar in The Saint, Sir Roger will be at Bluewater Shopping Centre, near Dartford, on Friday.

The TV and movie icon will visit Waterstone's bookstore to talk about his new autobiography, My Word Is My Bond.

Sir Roger said: "I am really looking forward to visiting Kent. It was the home of Ian Fleming, of course, which makes it extra poignant.

"He created a character in James Bond that helped make me who I am today and I am grateful for that.

"It was a brilliant time for me and there is plenty in the book from my time as the world's best-known spy."

Waterstone's manager Tim Eastwood said: "We are delighted and honoured to be welcoming an international film legend to the store for a book signing.

"Sir Roger Moore is a household name thanks to his portrayal of 007 and is loved and respected the world over.

"We urge customers and fans to arrive as early as possible as access to the queue will be on a first come, first served basis."

Sir Roger has enjoyed a spectacular career spanning 70 years, from early television to the golden age of Hollywood and on to international superstardom.

He was unforgettable in the Sixties as The Saint and in the early Seventies took on another English gentleman sleuth role as Lord Brett Sinclair in The Persuaders, alongside Hollywood heart-throb Tony Curtis.



THE SAINT: Roger Moore portrayed the Sixties icon

Then came James Bond. He made seven films as arguably the most debonair of all the 007s. For the first time, Sir Roger shares his recollections of playing some of the world's most famous roles alongside a host of legendary stars.

In the book he tells of his personal life, ranging from childhood in London and experiences during the Second World War, to the happy – if sometimes turbulent – times in later life.

There are anecdotes about his encounters with the stars and his memories from the heyday of Hollywood.

Sir Roger will be signing books at Waterstone's on Friday from 5.30pm.

• My Word Is My Bond is published in hardback by Michael O'Mara Books, priced £18.99.

Howard's bank probe demand

FORMER Tory leader Michael Howard has demanded a probe into how the BBC obtained details of confidential talks about the Government's banks rescue plan.

The Folkestone and Hythe MP wrote to the Financial Services Authority after a report by BBC business editor Robert Peston caused bank shares to plummet on Tuesday.

His letter states: "The regulatory announcement system exists to prevent this sort of report and its consequences. I therefore request you launch an immediate inquiry into the source of the leaked information."

Pensioner dies in hit-and-run

AN ELDERLY woman was killed by a hit-and-run driver as she used a pedestrian crossing on the A20.

The 70-year-old was struck by a car close to the railway bridge in Harrietsham, near Maidstone, at about 8.45am on Thursday.

On Friday, police were stopping and questioning drivers using the road where the woman was killed. They are appealing for witnesses to come forward, particularly the driver of a green Land Rover Discovery and a woman dressed in pink who was pushing a child's buggy.

Our boys back on front line

TROOPS from Kent have now been deployed in southern Afghanistan.

About 550 soldiers from the 2nd Battalion of the Royal Gurkha Rifles, based at Shorncliffe Barracks in Folkestone, as well as servicemen in Kent's county regiment, the Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment, are in Helmand Province.

They are part of 3 Commando Brigade, which has just taken over from 16 Assault Brigade.

Jailed rapist nurse will be deported on release

A MENTAL health nurse who raped two of his patients has been jailed for at least four-and-a-half years.

John Mendy, 33, who worked at St Martin's Hospital in Canterbury, will also be deported to Gambia, Africa, when he is released.

Mendy, of Cliffsend, Ramsgate, was sentenced by Judge Adele Williams at Canterbury Crown Court on Friday, having previously pleaded guilty to two counts of rape.

Supt Chris Hogben of Kent Police described the offences as a "very serious breach of trust".

He added: "The public expect to be safe while being treated in hospital. This sentence reflects the seriousness of the offences.

"I was extremely pleased by the professional way my staff investigated these crimes.

"The hospital staff and management gave their full co-operation to this sensitive investigation.

"I would also like to pay tribute to the victims. Without their bravery in coming forward to give evidence, it is unlikely we would have been able to secure the conviction of a man who poses a serious risk to women."

• Kent Police decided not to release a picture of Mendy out of respect for his victims, after consultation with the family liaison officer.



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County launches health watchdog

By **JENNA PUDELEK**
jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

A NEW watchdog has been set up to help people make complaints, comment on or compliment Kent's health and social care.

Kent Health Watch, a £300,000 "signposting" initiative that points callers to its 24-hour helpline for the right feedback services, was unveiled on Friday at Maidstone Hospital.

The launch coincided with the first anniversary of the Healthcare Commission's damning report into two outbreaks of the Clostridium difficile superbug at Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust.

Glenn Douglas, the trust's chief executive, said part of the success of turning round the trust since the report had been a policy of transparency and honesty.

He said it now had the lowest rate of C diff in the South East.

Cllr Paul Carter, leader of Kent County Council, said Health Watch would enable the 1.3 million residents of Kent to voice their opinions on health and social care issues and be heard.

But Cllr Mark Fittock, Labour shadow cabinet member for public health at county hall, said ahead of the launch that the Government had already developed a Local Involvement Network for Kent to offer an independent health and social care complaints procedure.

But Cllr Alan Marsh, cabinet member for public health, said Kent Health Watch was "totally different" to the Government's scheme, which was set up to help people influence or change the way health and social care services are delivered and reports to local authorities' health overview and scrutiny committees.



NEW ROLE: The Kent Health Watch initiative launch at Maidstone Hospital on Friday

He said: "This is a unique system with a recording capability and for the first time is providing a basis on which trends can be recognised by the calls we get.

"We are able to collate and collect information while the primary care trusts (PCTs) are treating people."

KCC's health overview and scrutiny committee will see the data and information collected at its monthly meetings and any trends will be flagged up and reported to the NHS.

Steve Phoenix, chief executive of NHS West Kent, spoke at the launch about the importance of receiving the public's views on services.

The PCT's board at a meeting in March had raised concerns about the value of the service, given that it would be directing people to existing services, and called for regular reviews of its effectiveness.

He told Kent on Sunday: "One of the things we talked about was the danger that having another complaints mechanism could be confusing. There is that potential.

"However, I hope that will not be the case and in a sense this is designed for people who do not know how to raise a complaint – or make a compliment."

He said the service would be reviewed in a year's time but that the NHS and the council would try to make sure the risks were dealt with.

Call Kent Health Watch on 08458 247103, email kenthealthwatch@kent.gov.uk or textbox 08458 247905.

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Stack of road problems for three visiting French cops

FRENCH traffic police will have the chance to see at first-hand the congestion and chaos caused by Operation Stack this weekend.

Three Gendarmerie Nationale officers will be on patrol in the county as part of an exchange programme with Kent Police.

They will spend three days working alongside Kent officers on traffic issues including Operation Stack, where lorries are queued on the M20 when cross-Channel travel is disrupted.

The French officers will be shown the problems caused by foreign lorries, as well as speeding.

It follows a visit by three officers from Kent Police to the Pas de Calais region in August, where they worked with French police as they check driving documents, condition of vehicles, and compulsory equipment such as high-visibility vests and hazard triangles.

Speeding

In July, the Travelling Abroad section of the Kent Police website was launched, which includes details about French speeding restrictions, road rules and signs.

During the visit, the French officers will see a joint check of vehicles by Kent Police and the Vehicle and Operator Services Agency at the Port of Dover. They will then be taken to a layby on the A20 to witness the problems caused by lorries parking.

The officers will also be given a presentation about Operation Stack, have a demonstration by the Serious Collision Investigation Unit and visit the Dartford Crossing.

Their visit coincides with the start of school holidays in France and traffic coming from France to England is expected to be high.

Chief Inspector Roscoe Walford said: "We are looking forward to welcoming our French counterparts and completing the exchange.

"Our officers gained a great deal from working with the Gendarmerie Nationale and I am sure the French officers will also benefit from their experience in Kent."

Icon sails into action



ICONIC Greenpeace ship the Rainbow Warrior is sailing to Kingsnorth as part of the environmental campaign against a new coal-fired power station on the Hoo peninsula.

The 55-metre flagship is known worldwide for promoting green causes. The original vessel was sunk in 1985 by French agents as it tried to halt nuclear tests in the Pacific.

The new ship was launched in 1989 and takes its name from a North American Indian proverb which states that greed will destroy the world until a band of warriors descend to Earth on a rainbow.

The Rainbow Warrior will be in Kentish waters on Monday, October 20, as part of Greenpeace's Give Coal The Boot campaign.

Free guided tours of the vessel will be run from Southend pier on October 25 and 26.

Joss Garman of Greenpeace said: "A huge coalition is building against planned coal power plants.

"Faith groups, development groups, politicians of all shades, scientists and thousands of ordinary people are standing up and saying no to coal."

Last month, after an eight-day trial, Greenpeace volunteers dubbed the Kingsnorth Six were cleared at Maidstone Crown Court of causing £30,000 damage to Kingsnorth power station by daubing Prime Minister Gordon Brown's name on a chimney stack.

Greenpeace said the ruling was a major blow to the Government's energy plans.

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Caring done properly

Charge nurse organises Royal Philharmonia concert of music from cult TV shows

Standby for action...

Pictures: ITV GLOBAL ENTERTAINMENT









EVERYBODY who remembers those magnificent musical scores for the likes of the cult TV series Thunderbirds and Stingray in the 1960s and 70s will want to go to a special concert.

A Kent charge nurse and friend of Gerry Anderson, creator of the incredible puppet shows, has spent months organising the Royal Philharmonia concert at London's Southbank Centre.

Ralph Titterton, 54, from Ashford, who works at the critical care unit in William Harvey Hospital said he has been a fan of the shows since he was a boy and met his hero Gerry Anderson while working for hospital radio at the former Sea Bathing Hospital in Margate.

Ralph said: "I had always admired him and loved the music for the shows, which were created by Barry Gray."

The composer died in 1984 aged 74, but his legacy lives on with millions of fans around the world. This concert celebrates the centenary of his birth.

By **CHRIS MURPHY**
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

Ralph said: "Gerry and I became good friends and somehow I ended up with piles of damp cardboard boxes full of Barry's original tapes. With my partner Cathy Ford we catalogued them and now preserve them for future generations.

"This concert has been complex and difficult to organise, but it will be magnificent. It's the first time so much of Barry's incredibly music will be heard in one place. This is history being made."

Gray left a creative legacy to generations of TV viewers which had brilliance that has become an enduring and integral part of our popular culture.

From the child-like innocence of The Adventures of Twizzle, and Torchy the Battery Boy, to the epic excitement of Stingray, Thunderbirds, Captain Scarlet, Joe 90, UFO and Space: 1999, the musical work of Gray was a constant for children of a certain age.

In all, he scored 12 television series and four films over 18 years.

Gerry Anderson, 79, will be at the show that will be compered by Brian Blessed who appeared in two episodes of Space: 1999.

He said: "Everybody knows the Thunderbirds music – it's as recognisable at the James Bond theme. This will be a fabulous evening, and has taken a lot of work to organise and I can't wait. Barry's music helped make all my shows so well known – it captured each and every moment of drama so well. They would not have been such a success without him, I am sure of that."

Tickets can be bought from the Southbank on 0871 663 2500 or at www.southbankcentre.co.uk. A percentage of gross income from the concert will be donated to the Cinema and Television Benevolent Fund which encourages the next generation young talent, and offers welfare services for those on hard times.

It owns and manages its own residential care home, Glebelands, to provide comfortable accommodation in a caring environment set in its own grounds.

For more information visit www.fanderson.org.uk.



GENIUS: Barry Gray (above) composed the themes to Gerry Anderson's classic shows (1) Captain Scarlet, (2) Thunderbirds, (3) Joe 90 and (4) Stingray, plus many more

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China Gateway begins to open

THE first phase of one of the most contentious developments ever proposed for Thanet has been approved by the local authority.

Phase one of what has been dubbed China Gateway will now be built at Manston Business Park after a council meeting on Thursday night.

Months of debate, rumour and campaigning were brought to a head as the plans finally got the nod in a tense atmosphere at the Thanet District Council chamber in Margate.

However, conditions are to be imposed on the scheme, which includes 20 warehouses, a showroom, staff restaurant and amenity buildings and covers more than 137,000sq m

By **TOM BETTS**
tom.betts@kosmedia.co.uk

of floor space. The terms will be decided by the planning committee after talks with the applicant, Commercial Group Properties, which claims more than 1,300 jobs will be created.

The accepted amendments were raised by Cllrs Alan Poole and David Green.

However, a change of position for the two largest warehouses, proposed by Cllr Chris Wells, was thrown out after it was judged that for such a deviation from the application to be accepted an outright refusal would be necessary. Confusion reigned at times as a monitoring officer and chief executive Richard Samuel had to interrupt the debate to point proceedings in the right direction and clarify matters.

Water and sewage drainage, parking, noise and light pollution and landscaping are among the aspects that will have to be addressed. Construction will not begin until conditions have been met.

In front of a packed public gallery, the meeting, scheduled to last an hour, overran by more than 90 minutes before the application was approved, at about 9.30pm. Forty-one voted for the project and 10 against.

Protesters shouted "shame" at those adopting a pro-China Gateway stance, while there was applause for councillors and speakers who highlighted concerns about the project.

Many who arrived to watch the debate were unable even to enter the chamber. An overflow room with a CCTV feed was set up, but even then some were left outside.

Campaigner Jenny Matterface described the meeting as a "complete shambles". She said: "Many councillors seemed unsure of what they were even voting on."

Barbara Leyton, from Margate, said: "I couldn't get in. I was told there was no more room. It's a disgrace. No wonder people are disillusioned with local politics.

"With all the technology available, you would have thought we could watch a debate on an issue that could affect our lives so badly."

News and sport updated daily online
www.kentnews.co.uk

Amnesty kukri in Gurkha hands

A TRADITIONAL Gurkha weapon handed in during a police knife amnesty has been returned to its rightful home.

Maidstone police presented the knife to the Queen's Gurkha Engineers at a celebration lunch marking the Hindu festival of Dashain.

Police obtained the kukri during a month-long weapons amnesty in May 2006. It was then given to Maidstone museum, which led to an investigation into its historical significance.

The Queen's Gurkha Engineers, based in the county town and part of 36 Engineer Regiment, provided a team to research the kukri and discovered it had belonged to a soldier from the 1st Battalion of the Prince of Wales's Own Gurkha Rifles, who had served during the Third Afghan War in 1919.

Ch Supt Alasdair Hope said: "We felt the kukri should be returned to its military family, especially considering its history."

"I am proud to be able to present this knife to the Queen's Gurkha Engineers."



SHARP END: Ch Supt Alasdair Hope presents the kukri to Lt-Col Richard Wardlaw of 36 Engineers



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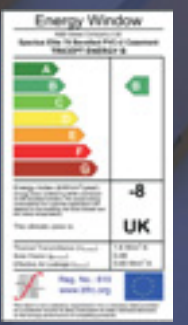
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Deadly asbestos on stolen truck

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The white Ford tipper was taken from the car park of Southern Asbestos in Cannon Lane, Tonbridge, last weekend.



TOXIC: Missing lorry

The lorry had a load of 30 double-bagged sacks of asbestos insulation waste.

PC Claire Taylor said: "We are very keen to trace this lorry. The waste was safely bagged, but it is very toxic."

Contact the police on 01732 379217 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

Information can also be emailed to appeals.westkent@kent.pnn.police.uk.

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Business world's relief as Chancellor acts on banking crisis

'Sag aloo bail-out' is enough for starters

By **TONY PATEY**
tony.patey@kosmedia.co.uk

IN JUST 24 hours the world stepped into a new global economic era last week and – like Gene Pitney in his song about Tulsa – our banking and financial system will never be the same again.

In the UK, big money names familiar in Kent's high streets – Halifax, Royal Bank of Scotland, Lloyds TSB and Barclays – were among those which signed up to a partial-nationalisation.

The Government had already taken the full nationalisation step with Northern Rock, but Wednesday's £400 billion bail-out, designed to breathe new life into a banking system that had been gasping for weeks, raised the ante another notch.

At breakfast time, the Chancellor announced the lifeline – which will become known as the 'sag aloo bail-out' after Alistair Darling had an Indian takeaway of sag aloo and tandoori chicken, before working on details with Treasury colleagues right through the night.

It was an unprecedented move. And at lunchtime another historic and unprecedented move took place as six key western central banks, including the Bank of England, cut their interest rates by one half of one per cent in a coordinated action.

Some of our big lenders followed suit, for the first time in ages. It was a big ray of sunshine breaking through gloomy economic clouds and millions breathed a sigh of relief.

The Home Builders Federation, desperately seeking good news for its struggling members, welcomed the moves.

Chairman Stewart Baseley said: "The crisis in the world economy dictated that coordinated and decisive action was taken. I hope banks now start to restore mortgage lending to more normal levels and the Chancellor continues to work closely with the Bank of England to assess if further rate cuts are needed to support the economy."

Simon Rubinsohn, the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors' chief economist, said: "The dramatic action from the authorities is an appropriate response to the chaos in financial markets and the global economy's slide into recession. This should help to start the process of rebuilding confidence, but we suspect more action will be necessary over the coming months."

The Council of Mortgage Lenders said: "It should help to underpin consumer confidence that the authorities will actively manage the problems of the current downturn."

Director general Michael Coogan said: "This seems to be a decisive, coordinated and reasonable package. These measures will help to create more positive conditions for the mortgage market."

But the flipside is that rates for savers are also likely to be cut. However, the interesting point is that nationalisation is being seen round the world as a viable economic strategy again.

Andrew Aves, regional organiser of the Kent and Medway Federation of Small Businesses, said: "The feedback we are receiving from members is patchy.

"Businesses that have demonstrated good financial management retain the confidence of their bankers, but several are reporting increased and new charges.

"Other businesses that have been reliant on long-term funding through overdraft facilities are finding negotiations with their bankers to be more challenging."

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Judge's fury as fly-tipper evades jail

By KEVIN O'SULLIVAN
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

A JUDGE has blasted Britain's bin laws after a professional fly-tipper from Dartford was allowed to walk free from court, yet ordinary homeowners are fined for leaving dustbin lids open.

Judge Michael Lawson QC was furious at having to let serial dumper Alan Yarlett, 63, get away "scot-free" because sentencing guidelines would not allow him to lock him up.

The judge said he understood how homeowners would feel "resentful" at being penalised for "some miserable dustbin offence" while Yarlett, who caused £7,000 damage to Kent beauty spots, was given a suspended sentence.

Judge Lawson told Maidstone Crown Court: "It creates problems of perception that decent, law-abiding citizens fear having a dustbin with a lid that doesn't close and this defendant gets away scot-free. What can the court do to punish him?"

The judge criticised sentencing guidelines that prevented him from jailing Yarlett.

He said ordinary people worried about being fined for leaving bin lids open while professional fly-tippers were let off the hook.

He added: "Sadly, the guidelines on individual offending prevent me from imposing an immediate custodial sentence."

Last year, nearly 44,000 Britons received £100 fines for offences such as leaving rubbish out on the wrong day or putting black bags alongside their wheelie bins.

Bus driver Gareth Corkhill was ordered to pay £210 for leaving his bin lid open in Cumbria in April this year.

But despite pleading guilty to a string of charges relating to dumping industrial waste at Kent beauty spots, Yarlett was ordered to pay just £2,300 in compensation.

The skip firm boss was exposed on the BBC's Rogue Traders show at the height of his illegal dumping activities, between August 2006 and January 2007.



Picture: KNP

CAUGHT: Serial fly-tipper Alan Yarlett

But he continued to dump waste, heading a company called Phoenix Skips.

In 2004 he was convicted of similar offences but evaded a jail term. He has also been given an Asbo for burning rubbish, ordered to perform 240 hours of community service and been fined a total of £11,500 for fly tipping in the past.

Yarlett admitted storing waste including old television sets, fridges and concrete in up to 50 skips on waste ground in Dartford.

He made tens of thousands of pounds, charging customers £60 to dispose of each load.

After a tip-off, council officers covered the waste in a substance called Smart Water and followed him as he dumped it on five separate occasions.

The material was then traced back to Yarlett, who was arrested.

He was given a six-month jail term, suspended for two years, and banned from driving for six months after the hearing on Monday.

Yarlett was also ordered to pay Dartford council £2,300 compensation. He must wear an electronic tag and stay indoors between 6pm and 6am for six months.

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Optimistic outlook with brewery's export boost

RISING production costs, customers watching the pennies and the smoking ban all blew the froth off the earnings of Faversham-based brewer Shepherd Neame, but exports were higher and bosses remain optimistic about the long-term future.

Chief executive Jonathan Neame said: "This has been as difficult a year as anyone in the industry can remember.

"The brewery has experienced spiralling costs – as have other operators – in energy and core raw materials, such as malt and glass.

"Raw material cost per unit has increased by 45 per cent since 2005-06 and we will experience further substantial rises into 2009."

Shepherd Neame saw turnover inch ahead by nearly two per cent to just over £102 million in the 12 months ending on June 28, but profits fell a quarter to nearly £8.7m.

Chairman Miles Templeman said: "In the longer term we remain very positive about the company's prospects. The difficult economic environment combined with the smoking ban has clearly hurt the national pub trade."

In a swipe at central goverment, he added: "The alcohol industry in general continues to face ever-increasing political interference.

"The Government does not recognise the important social, cultural and community role of British beer and pubs."

Sales of Asahi Super Dry, Japan's leading beer and produced by Sheps under licence, increased by more than 11 per cent.

Export sales during the year were £1,684,000 against £1,334,000 in 2007.



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Challenging roles given to pair of Kent MPs

Shake-up sees Clarks climb party ladders

By JENNA PUDELEK
jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

THE latest round of reshuffles in the cabinet and shadow cabinet has seen two Kent MPs promoted.

Greg Clark, the MP for Tunbridge Wells, has been made shadow secretary of state for climate change and energy, Conservative leader David Cameron announced on Monday.

The Prime Minister Gordon Brown contacted Paul Clark, the Gillingham and Rainham MP, last Saturday to reveal he had been made a minister at the Department of Transport under the Secretary of State Geoff Hoon.

Mr Clark said he was honoured to be promoted to the Tory frontbench.

If the country chooses a Conservative government at the next general election he could be heading a department that makes decisions about what is considered to be the greatest threat facing the planet.

"It is a very challenging and hugely important role for everyone," he said.

"Not only is there the importance of climate change, but there is the question of energy security and of course the effects of the economy."

The Committee on Climate Change, which advises Government on the issue, said emissions needed to be cut at least 80 per cent by 2050, including international aviation and shipping, to keep greenhouse gases below dangerous levels.

The previous target was 60 per cent and this week's recommendation puts pressure on ministers to abandon plans for new coal-fired power stations, such as the one at Kingsnorth on the Hoo peninsula, before carbon capture and storage technology is available, which many believe will not be until 2050.

Mr Clark said: "A lot of changes are needed, in terms of personal habits, motor technology needs to be changed and people's use of energy at home and in industry.




CHANGE: Paul Clark (left) and Greg Clark

"A whole range of steps are needed to meet these ambitious targets."

The committee said the UK would have to stop using fossil fuels in 20 years to meet the emission targets.

Mr Clark said details on how a Tory government would meet the committee's recommendations would be published in a policy paper soon.

He refused to be drawn on energy company E.ON's plans for Kingsnorth, but said "we should be reducing not increasing carbon emissions".

"We will be working on the set of steps we need to put in place to not only meet the emissions targets to make our energy supplies secure and make sure the economy is as robust as it can be," he said.

Meanwhile, Kent's newly-promoted Labour MP said he was "delighted", saying he would use his own role to tackle climate change.

"I have always said it is a great honour to be elected as an MP, doubly so to represent my home town.

"But now being asked to be a minister in such an important aspect of all our lives – whether it is as a rail commuter, driving on our road network, navigating our coasts and waterways, utilising cycle paths, bus routes or footpaths – I am extremely privileged to have this opportunity."

"I will be doing all that I can to deliver reliable and efficient transport networks, supporting economic growth, our communities, contributing to tackling climate change and enhancing opportunities for all sections of our society."

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'Give us the right to work' argue refugees

ASYLUM seekers who have fled persecution in their own countries and have come to the UK searching for a place of safety should be given the right to work, a charity has urged, ***writes Jenna Pudelek***.

Kent Refugee Help, which assists detainees at the Dover Immigration Removal Centre, told how once people leave the confines of the centre they are left to live in near destitution and isolation away from friends and the support networks they have built.

A national campaign, Let Them Work, run jointly by the TUC and the Refugee Council, wants to reverse the Government's decision in 2000 making it illegal for asylum seekers to pay taxes and contribute to the economy.

The small Kent charity has urged people across the county to join the campaign.

"Their lives have a lot of burden. The burden of whatever trauma they have been through and the uncertainty of whether they are going to be allowed to stay," said Professor Cornelius Katona, a consultant psychiatrist for Medical Justice who is based at the organisation's branch in Dover.

"They have the added uncertainty of having a very limited income, which is often not enough to meet their needs. And they have nothing to occupy them or give them self-respect."

One former Dover detainee who spoke to KOS Media told of the humiliation he feels by not being able to support his partner and their baby.

He said: "I don't want to live on benefits I just want to work so that I can pay for my family. I want to work like a normal person.

"That would make me the man of my house – I would be able to support my child and girlfriend."

The 30-year-old is living a hand-to-mouth existence in London supported by friends and the benefits his British partner receives while she is on maternity leave.

He left Gambia when his life was in danger as a young boy because his father had been killed for converting from Islam to Christianity.

Prof Katona said: "All the research suggests that they [asylum seekers] have very high rates of depression, anxiety and post-traumatic stress syndrome."

Under the Home Office's 'dispersal' programme, refugees who are bailed from centres like Dover are sent to live in hostels with other asylum seekers often in the North East and Scotland, away from support networks they have built.

They live on £35 vouchers that can only be spent on food at designated supermarkets, meaning they have no cash to spend on travel or other essentials.

Asylum seekers are allowed to receive healthcare on the NHS, but often struggle to do so because they have difficulty travelling and do not understand their rights.

A refugee from Algeria, who spent 21 months at Dover, has been living in a kind of 'limbo' for nearly two years – waiting to find out if he can stay and unable to return to his homeland.

Struggle

He has been diagnosed with depression and other mental health problems due to his experiences in his home country and his time in detention.

"We cannot buy new clothes – they push us and push most people to crime, if you have no friends then people go shoplifting. Too many people really struggle," said the 40-year-old who is living in Birmingham.

He described his life as "hell" and like being in prison.

He escaped from Algeria in 1995 after militants tried to recruit him in the civil war that saw more than 150,000 people slaughtered.

Kate Adams, from Kent Refugee Help, said it was particularly difficult for those from countries like his and Iran because the governments there refuse to take back failed asylum seekers.

Prof Katona added: "If they were allowed to work they would be able to establish roots and contribute to UK plc. They would be able to lead normal lives, have a rhythm to their days, and support their families and themselves."

Ms Adams urged people in Kent to join the campaign to help lift the refugees out of impoverished and inhumane conditions and give them the basic human right to work and contribute to society.

For more information visit www.refugeecouncil.org.uk/gettinginvolved/campaign/righttowork/action.

If you want to find out more about the work of the Kent charity at Dover call Ms Adams on 07826 395 433.

Gang race attack on Filipino man

A FILIPINO man was attacked and racially abused by a gang of teenagers as he walked home from work.

Youths aged 15-19 started shouting abuse at him, and as he reached the Black Horse pub in Pembury one of them threw a can of beer at him.

He continued walking down Lower Green Road and the group followed him.

As the man tried to walk down Beagles Wood Road a rock was thrown at him and he suffered a cut to his leg.

At least two members of the gang then chased the man down a path off Beagles Wood Road and used fence posts to threaten him. Only when people living nearby came out of their houses did the group run off.

The assault happened on Wednesday at around 8.30pm.

Det Con Steve Mercer said: "The victim was not seriously hurt, but he has been extremely shaken by what happened."



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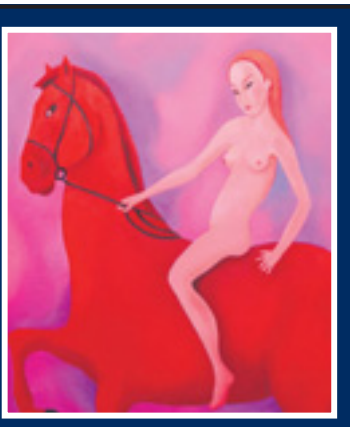
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VISIONS: Irina Pavlova-McGahan's work is part of this year's Canterbury Festival

Sacred art

Holy sites from across the globe inspiration for show

A LIFE spent travelling to spiritual places in exotic countries from Nepal to Chile has inspired a new exhibition of paintings by a Thanet-based artist, ***writes Jenna Pudelek***.

Irina Pavlova-McGahan, who is originally from Russia, explained her personal journey visiting holy sites across the world searching for something "indefinable", but which she has tried to expressed in her show – called the Holy Grail.

"It was a long journey for me, in search of the truth," she said. "I have visited many holy places in Tibet, Russia, South America, Europe, India and South East Asia.

"On my way I met lots of amazing people – holy men, shamans, monks, gurus.

"The more I searched outside the more I realised that the truth exists within me, in the sacred endless space of my heart."

Philosophy

Ms Pavlova-McGahan said the exhibition's title, the Holy Grail, was chosen because it refers to something unknown, but also something people have tried to find for centuries without knowing if it really exists.

The artist has been living in Ramsgate for 20 years, but returns regularly to her family's home close to the Turkish border and the Mediterranean.

Influences of the climate and rich colours of the area can be seen in her paintings, which is tied to her belief that colour evokes feelings and meaning.

"Colour affects the mind. It could be a simple image, but also tell of love and comfort. It is all about healing. I am amazed how images heal people. You need to look and feel paintings – that is the language of the eyes," she said explaining the philosophy of her paintings.

Ms Pavlova-McGahan's grandmother was a famous shamanic healer in Russia, using sound and herbs to cure people with her hands.

It was during a trip home that she saw a Russia icon painting of the Madonna holding a chalice representing the Holy Grail, which is believed to be the vessel used by Jesus at the Last Supper.

"It was in an amazing monastery, I could not take my eyes of the icons they were like a magnet," she said. "One was a miracle icon, which people addicted to drugs and alcohol came to see and pray in front of and for some reason they get better."

Ms Pavlova-McGahan recreated the mystical icon for her exhibition.

The show of 30 paintings at the Belgium Café in Ramsgate fuses symbolism and mythology from Buddhism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism and Shamanism.

She added: "I'm not religious. I don't know, I'm looking and longing for something bigger than myself. I'm searching, which is why I like meeting people, reading a lot of books and seeing different places. What you put in is what you get out."

The month-long exhibition, which is part of the Canterbury Festival, opens on Friday.

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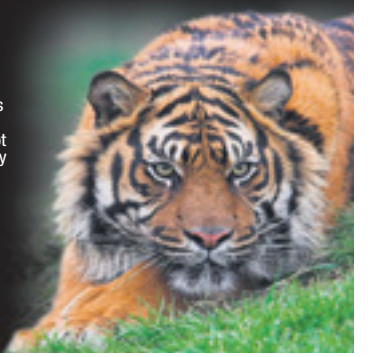
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Campaign of hate ended with brutal murder of teacher





BRUTAL END: Teacher Louise Evans was killed by her ex Keith Prest

THE former partner of a prison teacher has been convicted of her brutal murder.

A jury found Keith Prest guilty after hearing about his terrifying campaign of hate against mother-of-two Louise Evans, which culminated in a horrific blood bath.

Miss Evans, 48, from Hothfield, was stabbed to death on September 12 last year after she finished a shift teaching inmates at East Sutton Park open prison, near Maidstone.

Jobless drifter Prest, who refused to accept the end of their 18-month relationship, had laid in wait for his ex-lover before pouncing and stabbing her 43 times in a savage attack in the prison's car park.

At the time of the attack Prest, 48, had been on bail charged with assaulting Miss Evans – and had continued to stalk her by leaving letters taped to her car and posting notes through her letterbox, despite a court ban on contacting her.

Speaking outside Maidstone Crown Court Miss Evans' two grown-up daughters branded Prest a "monster".

The pair said in a statement: "Obviously our mother's death has been a devastating and painful experience. However, we can begin to look forward knowing that justice has been done and that this monster cannot hurt anyone else."

By **KEVIN O'SULLIVAN**

Judge Michael Lawson described how Prest mounted a campaign of fear after the couple – who met through a text message dating service – split up.

He said Prest, unable to accept the relationship breakdown, would regularly sneak into the teacher's driveway and leave notes on her car.

And that he violently "throttled" her just three months before murdering her – an attack for which he was released on police bail.

Loving mother

The judge said: "He mounted a campaign of fear, intimidation and emotional blackmail that so destroyed her life. Initially she saw a kind person, but before very long she saw the controlling, aggressive, threatening and violent side.

"Over 18 months you managed to subdue her into thinking it was her fault when she did things that made you angry."

He described how on June 13, 2007, Prest strangled the teacher, who was described as a "loving mother" and an "affectionate" and "generous" person.

Judge Lawson said: "You throttled her into semi-consciousness. On that occasion she had the courage to report the matter to police."

But the judge added that while on bail for the offence Prest started to constantly phone his former partner in breach of his bail conditions – with threats to kill her and himself.

He said: "You wanted to punish her, but in reality you were trying to exploit her courage and kind nature.

"She even had to get someone to open her gates at home to let her in and out."

The court heard how after the murder Prest attempted an overdose and admitted himself to hospital – to con police into thinking he was distraught at her death.

But police later found a pair of bloodied trainers dumped in a recycling bin in Wincheap.

Forensic officers matched DNA to both Prest and the murdered 48-year-old. He was then arrested.

Prest – who denied murder, but was convicted following a month-long trial – was told he will serve a minimum of 18 years before he is considered for release.

Miss Evans' devastated daughter Laura Whatman, a 25-year-old mother of two, said outside court: "Life should mean life. This despicable man deserves everything that comes to him."

News and sport daily online
www.kentnews.co.uk

Ab Fab star steps into Suzi's shoes for talk

IN a change to Canterbury Festival listings, Absolutely Fabulous star June Whitfield will now be giving a talk on Tuesday.

The popular actress replaces Suzi Quatro who was due to speak at the International Study Centre.

Whitfield's career in show business spans more than 50 years and includes collaborations with some of the greatest names in British comedy, from Morecambe and Wise to Tony Hancock.

She went on to star in the long-running BBC sitcom Terry and June and won a new generation of fans as Edina's dappy mother in Absolutely Fabulous.

The talk takes place at the International Study Centre at 5.30pm. Tickets cost £10. To book call the festival box office on 01227 378188 or visit www.canterburyfestival.co.uk.

Ticket holders for Suzi Quatro's talk can use them to attend June's talk or call the box office for a refund.

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Expansion plans will take Manston to a higher level

By TOM BETTS
tom.betts@kosmedia.co.uk

THE operator of Kent International Airport at Manston has unveiled its plans for the future.

Infratil's masterplan for the next 25 years would see the number of people using the airport rise dramatically.

The company wants to see one million passengers through the its doors each year by 2011, and two million a year by 2013.

By 2033, Infratil says the number of passengers using the airport could be as many as six million a year.

By that time it hopes to be flying to a number of domestic destinations such as Dublin, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Belfast and Manchester, along with Continental routes to Palma, Alicante, Faro and Malaga.

KIA chief executive Matt Clarke said: "We are well placed to become a significant regional airport for both passenger and freight services. Over the three years since acquiring the airport we have built a great team, invested in new equipment and now propose to take the airport to the next level."

He added the proposals, set out for airport stakeholders, make for an "exciting future".

Jobs

To cope with the increase in flights and passengers, a new terminal with extra car parking would be built, as well as an extension to the runway on land already owned by the airport.

Mr Clarke said: "We expect passenger growth to stem from in and around the Kent catchment area as congestion at London airports increases and services to and from convenient regional airports like KIA become increasingly attractive."

Infratil estimates the expansion could create 3,500 jobs by 2018, with that number rising to 7,500 by 2033. That is a huge rise from the 93 people currently employed directly at the 800-acre site.

A new parkway rail station could also be built, with two locations – one near Minster and one near Newington being identified as possible locations for a rail hub.

Infratil would operate the train service to take passengers to the airport.

Freight flights are also set to increase, according to the New Zealand firm.

It aims to increase its current 33,000-tonne handling figure to 100,000 in 2010, then to 150,000 in 2012.

It eventually wants to handle more than 500,000 tonnes by 2033.

Copies of the new plan are available to download from www.kia-m.com.

Special PC gets a 'pizza' the action

AN off-duty special constable from Maidstone police has been praised after he helped in the arrest of two men on suspicion of criminal damage and affray.

Special Constable Kevin Buck was walking past Topps Pizza in Maidstone when there was a disturbance that ended in damage to the front door of the takeaway.

He approached two suspects, identifying himself as a police officer, but the pair got into a taxi.

The officer followed in his car until a police patrol stopped the taxi.

A 35-year-old man and a 24-year-old man have been bailed to Maidstone Police Station until November. Anyone who witnessed the incident can call 01622 604282.

No ifs no butts in pouch give-away

SMOKERS and gum chewers in Gravesham are being offered free litter pouches so they don't have to throw butts and gum on the pavement.

Gravesham council is giving away 1,000 Stubbi pouches for cigarette ends only and another 1,000 that also have an extra pocket for chewing gum.

People who drop any litter in the street face a fine of £75.

The pouches are available free at the Civic Centre and housing offices at King's Farm, Lawrance Square and the Hive as well as the TownCentric tourist centre.

Some will also be handed out by PCSOs, who are now able to issue penalty notices for littering, and town wardens.

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Kent County Council

Smart choice for convoys

A SMART car might not be what you'd expect to see leading vehicle convoys through roadworks, but two of the compact vehicles have been taken on to do just that.

We've introduced the cars to lead traffic through single-lane operations at a steady 10mph - protecting nearby workers from speeding motorists.

These particular vehicles are perfect for the job because they can lead vehicles through works and then turn around in a very small area to lead the next group of vehicles in the opposite direction. Quad bikes were used for this job some years ago, but they were not a safe method, so we stopped using them. These SMART cars are the first real alternative since then and, as well as being safer, they are economical to run. Being cars, they also keep the driver dry in bad weather!

This type of traffic management is very specific, but the cars won't sit idle when they're not needed for convoy duty – they'll be used for pool cars instead.



Cycling the Oyster Bay Trail



Cycling is a great way to see the Kent countryside, but it's also an increasingly important method of transport as we try to cut down our car use.

At Kent Highway Services, we recognise that for cycling to be practical and enjoyable, there needs to be a relevant network of cycle routes. This won't happen overnight, but we are currently working in conjunction with Canterbury City Council, Thanet District Council, cycling charity Sustrans and the Crab and Winkle Trust to provide a major cycling initiative in Whitstable, Herne Bay and Reculver.

The scheme has qualified for a grant of £500,000 from Sustrans, as part of its national Connect2 project, and the first section of the new cycle route has already been completed. The section is called the Oyster Bay Trail and it goes across Reculver Country Park to the East of Herne Bay.

The protection and enhancement of the local environment is a vital part of the routes and we're paying particular attention to sensitive landscaping designs and the collection of ecological information. This is especially important for these routes because the proposed Crab and Winkle extension passes through a conservation area and the Viking Coastal Trail Bridge will be located within 1km of the Thanet Coast Site of Special Scientific Interest.

To can find out more about cycle routes in Kent on our website at **www.kent.gov.uk/highways**

Why do we use kerbs

It's pretty obvious that kerbs are used to distinguish footways from carriageways for safety reasons, but did you know that they also provide a channel for water drainage and they support the carriageway edge to stop it breaking up.



However, kerbing isn't just for urban areas; it also has a role to play in rural areas. For example, where vehicles go off the edge of the road, kerbing is used to maintain the line of the road making sure traffic remains on the road and not doesn't damage the verge. In the same way, kerbs are a key tool at bends and junctions to improve safety, and rural villages need them in the same way that urban areas do – to keep pedestrians safe and to channel water off the carriageway.

Whenever we do install kerbing, especially in rural areas, we take the location into consideration and in special areas that can mean considering the use of materials such as granite, so it blends smpathetically with the local environment.

You can find out more about the work that we do online at www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Travel Update

Kent Highway Services

Below are roadworks and events that may cause some disruptions. Please remember that these are planned works and other emergency works may be required.

Ashford

Start	Finish	Road	Reason
Current	3.11.08	Brookfield Road, Ashford	Temporary traffic lights – carriageway works

Thanet

Start	Finish	Road	Reason
Current	27.2.08	Sandwich Road, Ramsgate	Temporary traffic lights – energy supply works

Maidstone

Start	Finish	Road	Reason
13.10.08	13.10.08	A26 Tonbridge Road, Maidstone	Temporary traffic lights – energy supply works
13.10.08	15.10.08	A229 Station Road, Staplehurst	Temporary traffic lights – water main works

Dover

Start	Finish	Road	Reason
13.10.08	17.10.08	Folkestone Road, Dover	Temporary traffic lights – carriageway works

Canterbury

Start	Finish	Road	Reason
13.10.08	27.10.08	North Stream, Chislet	Road closure – water main works

For details of other roadworks in Kent please visit www.kent.gov.uk/travel

See www.KentTV.com for up-to-date travel information

For more information, please call 08458 247 800 or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Lord reveals truth about global leaders' sickness



BOOK: Lord Owen

POLITICIANS throughout history have protected their jobs by not telling voters when they are seriously ill, claims former Social Democrats leader Lord David Owen.

Lord Owen has released a book on the subject entitled In Sickness and in Power and gave a talk at Tunbridge Wells' Trinity Theatre on Thursday.

Speaking to KOS Media before the event, the former foreign secretary said many famous politicians were far more unhealthy than they let on.

He added: "Heads of government lie about their true health and their doctors lie on their behalf. In the book I ask if this is acceptable and if the electorate has the right to know, because often leaders can make bad decisions if they are unwell.

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

"I mainly cover American presidents and British prime ministers, but there are others who have been guilty of misleading the public.

Depression

"It starts off with President Theodore Roosevelt in 1901 and ends up with former Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, who was being kept alive on life support and had a heart condition that nobody was told about."

Lord Owen said he first became aware of what went on behind the scenes when, during his career as a neurologist, he treated two former MPs for depression and alcoholism.

He said: "I could see what was going on and I learnt more over the years.

"It even goes as far as Tony Blair, who kept it quiet that he had an abnormal heartbeat.

"It eventually came out, but his condition was far more serious than he let on."

Lord Owen was one of the founder members of the Social Democrats, which he led from 1983 to 1987 and then the reformed version from 1988 to 1990.

He was also the youngest person in more than 40 years to hold the post of foreign secretary, which he did between 1977 and 1979.

Today, Lord Owen sits in the House of Lords as a crossbencher and is rumoured to be supportive of Gordon Brown as Prime Minister.

However, he refused to confirm this to KOS Media.

He said: "I won't be drawn on party politics. Labour are in power and will be until 2010 if they want to be, so it's up to the public to vote for who they want.

"I'm not allowed to vote because I'm a member of the House of Lords, which I think is absurd.

"But then there's a lot about the House of Lords that needs to be reformed."

News and sport updated daily online
www.kentnews.co.uk

Schoolgirls start cancer jabs scheme

PUPILS at Invicta Grammar School in Maidstone this week became the first in west Kent to start being immunised against cervical cancer.

Girls in Year 13 (17 and 18-year-olds) at Invicta Grammar School had their first vaccinations against the two strains of the HPV virus (Human Papillomavirus) that cause 74 per cent of cases of cervical cancer.

Girls in Year 8 (12 and 13-year-olds) will be vaccinated later in the year.

These are the two age groups selected nationally to be the first to get the Cervarix vaccine, which is being offered by the NHS for the first time.

There will be catch-up schemes for girls aged 13-17 over the next two years.

Research shows that in uninfected girls, the immunisation programme is 99 per cent effective at protecting against the two main strains of HPV.

Cervical cancer, which is the second commonest form of cancer in women worldwide, causes 400 deaths a year in the UK, five a year in west Kent.

The majority of girls are expected to have their vaccinations at school. Girls who are not at school or who have missed a dose will be able to arrange to have their immunisations at their GP's surgery.

NHS West Kent's deputy director of public health, Dr Brendan O'Connor, said: "As the first widely available vaccine to protect against cancer, this is a real breakthrough."

For more information, visit www.westkentpct.nhs.uk.

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Final credits rolling for TV campaigner

By **MICK WATKINS**

THE head of a broadcasting campaign group is stepping down after 25 years in the hot seat.

Jocelyn Hay is handing over the reins of the Gravesend-based Voice of the Listener and Viewer (VLV) to a new chairman, Richard Lindley.

Mrs Hay, CBE, founded the organisation a quarter of a century ago to fight plans by the BBC to turn Radio 4 into a news and current affairs programme only – with many programmes hived off to local radio.

The campaign was a success and since then VLV has grown into an independent organisation fighting on behalf of listeners and viewers for quality and diversity in British broadcasting.

Mrs Hay now becomes honorary president of VLV while former television journalist Richard Lindley has been elected the new chairman.

Mrs Hay said: "I am very proud of all that VLV has done to put the voice of the consumer in broadcasting on the map.

"Before VLV came into being audience representatives were kept at arm's length and public consultation was unknown.

"Now it is taken for granted and an automatic first step in policy-making.

"Despite the growth and many potential benefits of new media, television is still is the main source of information and entertainment for millions of people in the UK and as such one of the most powerful influences on our culture and democracy.

"I believe it is essential the BBC remains the cornerstone of British broadcasting and the new digital media, as a publicly funded institution with a public service remit that puts the interests of its audiences and users above all else.

"The main commercial broadcasters in the UK must also continue to be regulated in the public interest.



HONOUR: Mrs Hay received CBE for work

Saddam Hussein

"I am delighted that Richard Lindley is taking the helm of VLV at this critical time for British broadcasting and I hope that he will continue to enjoy the immense amount of help and support from all sorts of people that I have been fortunate enough to enjoy.

"I know I could not have achieved anything without it."

Mr Lindley has worked for Independent Television News and reported from Rhodesia, the war in Vietnam and Cambodia, the Nigerian civil war in Biafra, the Six-Day War in the Middle East and the war between India and Pakistan that created Bangladesh. He also covered the 1968 riots in Paris and Berlin.

In the early 1970s Mr Lindley worked for Panorama and was the first western television reporter to interview Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein.

He presented the flagship current affairs show for two years and interviewed Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher during the Falklands War.

Since then he has worked for ITV, ITN and from 1995-99 made special reports for News at Ten.

Mr Lindley has also written two books about the history of television journalism.

He said: "Jocelyn and her colleagues have fought a brilliant fight to keep standards in broadcasting high.

"As the economic pressure mounts and we head further into multi-channel digital territory we must redouble our efforts.

"The quality of our broadcasting has been one of the best things about this country. It must be fought for, and never abandoned."

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Adults £16.00; Children (4-15 years) £10.00; Under 4's free
Group rate (15 or more): Adults £14.00; Children (4-15 years) £9.00
Opens 12 noon; firework display starts 5.30pm. The castle itself will be closed.

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Pictures: NICK AMES



VIGILANT: Maj Mark Austin of the Royal Logistics Corps oversees the operation



HEAVY: Sgt David Humphreys puts on the 45kg anti-blast suit to take a closer look



BRAVE: Sgt Humphreys takes "the long walk" towards the robot and suspect device



UNITY: The mock anti-terror exercise was a joint operation with Kent Police

A fist in the face of any terrorist threat

AN ANTI-terrorism exercise involving police and army units took place across Kent this week.

It started on Monday, with a demonstration of bomb-disposal techniques at the Kent Police training centre in Maidstone.

Exercise Border Fist also took place at other locations throughout the week, finishing on Friday. It involved police officers setting up alert situations and contacting the Army, which responded as if it was a real emergency.

By **NICK AMES**
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

Deputy Chief Constable Adrian Leppard said: "This is a way for us to examine how effective our co-operation with other agencies such as the Army is, as well as test our command and control structure."

Major Mark Austin of the Royal Logistics Corps said: "We are playing this for real, responding to incidents exactly as we would a real emergency."

Details of the mock alerts were not released in advance so the emergency services could not plan their responses.

"We can't say what's going to happen as that would give the Army information they would not have in a real-life emergency," explained Mr Leppard at the start of the week.

Monday's exercise put forward the scenario that a post office robbery had taken place and the raiders had left an improvised nail bomb outside the store to tie down police units.

It took place in a mocked up street used by the force for training operations.

Soldiers from the Folkestone-based bomb disposal squad took part alongside the police. "Our team arrived with the area cordoned off, as would happen in a real alert," said Warrant Officer Andy Stedman.

"We then deployed what we call the wheelbarrow, a robot bomb-disposal device which can approach the bomb and relay pictures back to our command truck."

The robot is equipped with a high-pressure hose which can fire a burst of cold water to knock out electronic circuits and render an explosive device safe.

"It's a system we have developed from long experience," said W/O Stedman. "It acts in an nanosecond and prevents the timing device from detonating."

A soldier in a 45kg anti-blast suit then examines the device to ensure it no longer poses a threat. Sgt David Humphreys took on the role during the exercise, although he has done it for real in Army operations abroad.

"We call it the long walk," he said. "It's 100 per cent concentration – there is no room for nerves."

After he is sure the device is safe, he collects evidence such as materials and possible fingerprints.

"This exercise went well," said Mr Leppard.

He wanted the public to phone in during the week if they saw anything suspicious.

He said: "We have to be vigilant. If they do call us and it is just an exercise, we will know."



VIDEO SHOW: You can watch a film of the anti-terror exercise at yourkenttv.co.uk. Search for 'border fist' and click the play button

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Dance school selected to showcase television judge's Boogie For Your Bones

Tapping into Craig's moves

MOVES created by Strictly Come Dancing judge Craig Revel Horwood will be performed by a group of Medway tap-dancers to raise awareness of osteoporosis, ***writes Steve Knight***.

Ten women from the Margella School of Dancing have until October 20 to practise their own version of the Boogie For Your Bones, which they will then demonstrate to a packed audience at the Royal Festival Hall on London's Southbank.

A first attempt at Horwood's dance was enough to convince the National Osteoporosis Society that the group, which meets once a week at Gillingham Methodist Church, have what it takes to promote dancing as a way to build bone strength.

Margella secretary Claire Britcher said: "A group of ladies dancing for fun and fitness seemed to be what the society was looking for, especially as we have a mix of ages.

"Lots of us have old, creaking bones but we still manage to go along once a week and have a lot of fun. Tap-dancing in particular is good for the legs and the ankles, and it keeps your heart racing.

"We only had an hour to practise the Boogie For Your Bones before we recorded it and sent it off because our dance teacher was on holiday, so we certainly didn't expect to be chosen.

"The ladies were delighted when I told them the good news and they are thrilled they've been given the chance to perform at the Royal Festival Hall."

Dance groups across the UK were encouraged to write to the charity with a reason why they believe they can inspire the nation to "boogie for their bones".

A shortlist of 15 – which also included Chatham's Broadway Studios – was then whittled down to four who will perform at the event. Horwood designed Boogie For Your Bones with health expert Dr Miriam Stoppard.

He said: "Dance is one of the best forms of weight-bearing exercise. It is invigorating, engaging and exciting, and most importantly it appeals to everyone.

"Unlike many exercises, when people dance they don't even realise that while having fun they are also building stronger bones and protecting themselves for the future.

"No matter what their style, age or ability, we are inviting our four winning dance groups to join us, show the country their talent and inspire the nation to get healthy."

Osteoporosis is one of the most common diseases in the UK. One in two women and one in five men over the age of 50 will break a bone, mainly due to osteoporosis.

For more information visit www.nos.org.uk or call the National Osteoporosis Society helpline on 0845 450 0230.



SLICK MOVER: Strictly Come Dancing judge Craig Revel Horwood



LONDON DATE: Margella School of Dancing ladies will perform Craig Revel Horwood's Boogie For Your Bones at the Royal Festival Hall to help raise awareness of osteoporosis

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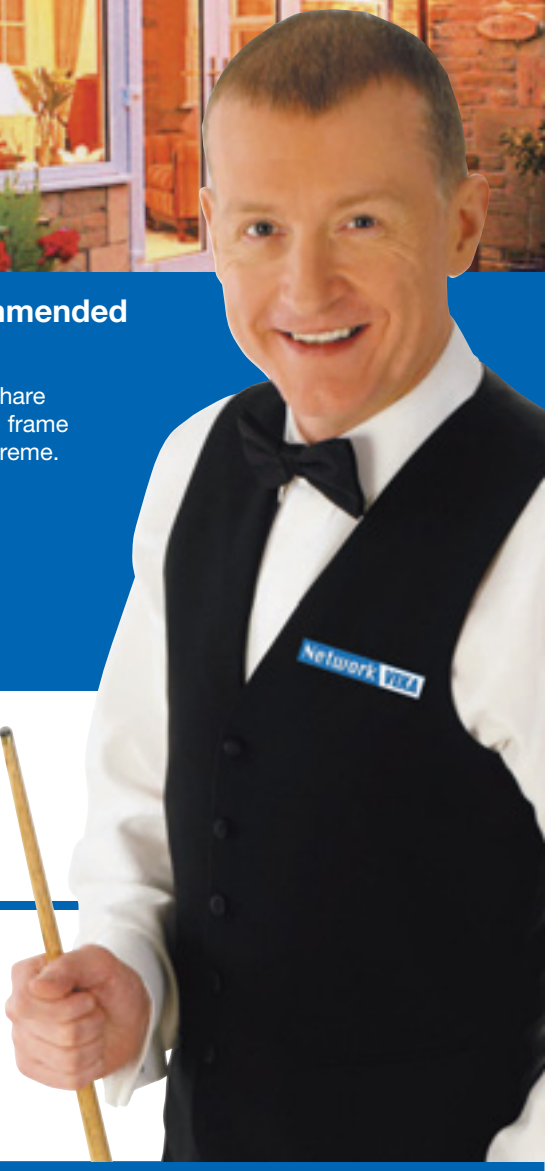
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PIPER
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Court hands booze ban to violent youth

Asbo to stop antisocial teenager

By **NICK AMES**
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

A TEENAGER has been given a three-year Asbo banning him from being drunk in England or Wales.

Jack Harbour, 18, from Gillingham, was sentenced by a court this week to 16 months in a young offenders' institution after two assaults.

But when he is released from detention he will still be banned from getting drunk anywhere in England or Wales.

Police say the action is part of a crackdown on antisocial behaviour.

Officers said the granting of the order came when Harbour was arrested after a series of incidents in Medway.

A spokesman said: "His drunken behaviour was leading to problems.

"He had been causing trouble and his actions were making life a misery for those who live here and visitors.



TROUBLEMAKER: Jack Harbour

"That is why the order was granted for such a long period. We are very pleased with the result."

Chief Insp Des Keers said: "Medway residents have the right to enjoy their own homes and environment in peace and without fear.

"By working closely with our partners to secure this Asbo we have achieved another step towards reducing antisocial behaviour."

Officer Jackie Lineham, who co-ordinated the case, said: "This action is about enforcing acceptable levels of behaviour and creating an environment in which people feel safe.

"We will not hesitate in taking action against people who are intent on intimidating or harassing others.

"I urge anyone who sees Harbour breaching the conditions of this order to contact Medway police."

Schools' experiment to boost interest in science

A GROUP of schools have got together to answer a call from business leaders for more scientists.

In the summer, the director general of the CBI Richard Lambert, called for an environment in schools that reflects the importance of science, and the value of studying it.

Now eight Maidstone schools have got together to launch Growing Scientists – a three-year project aiming to make the subject fun and interesting for students.

The group has won a grant from the Independent State Schools Partnership of around £83,000 towards the cost.

The project was launched on Friday at The Friars in Aylesford where pupils got a chance to see a rocket launch, and learn about crime scenes and the science behind fingerprinting.

Phil Robling from Maidstone Grammar School, who is leading the project, said: "The aim of the project is to excite pupils about science so more will not only take up the sciences in school, but will also take up careers in science."

Activities planned for 2008-09 include a space camp, where Year 8 pupils will experience a variety of workshops including launching professional rockets.

This will be followed up with specialist space schools at each of the participating schools to include chemical rocketry, space robotics and an 'E-mission', among others. An Easter residential school is also planned for next year.

The second year will offer a CSI forensics day, followed by lessons in forensic chemistry, DNA profiling and much more. Further activities for the third year are being planned.

The schools taking part are Maidstone Girls Grammar; Invicta Grammar; Maidstone Grammar; Sutton Valence; Maplesden Noakes; Astor of Hever; Oakwood Park Grammar and St Simon Stock.

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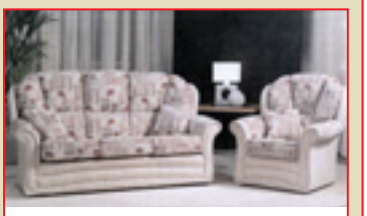
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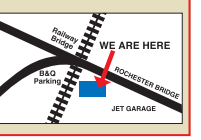


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WIN! a family ticket to The Magic Factory

The new attraction at The Hop Farm Family Park, Paddock Wood





IF YOU'VE always dreamt of following in the footsteps of the famous Harry Potter, then luck is finally on your side as The Hop Farm Family Park in Paddock Wood opens its doors to The Magic Factory on Saturday, October 25.

This magical attraction is the first to open in England and reveals the secrets of some of the most dazzling tricks around including levitation, the floating head, the mirrored maze, the mind-boggling trommel and the disappearing act.

And just in case your friends don't believe you've conquered these masterful tricks, there are easy-to-follow instructions on how to take photographs as a memento.

There are tons of puzzles, optical illusions and tricks to solve as you make your way around this fantastic factory of magic.

You'll need to keep your wits about you though as there will be surprise appearances from the mysterious master of magic 'Merlin'.

From October 25-31, The Hop Farm will be celebrating Halloween and the opening of the new Magic Factory with a host of fun things to do. There will be Magic Masterclasses from our very own Merlin and his Ghostly Crew that will guarantee you a treat on Halloween Eve.

Spooky sing-alongs in the Big Top will have you rolling in the aisles and magic shows in the Magic Factory will dazzle you with some of the greatest tricks around.

There will be a special appearance from the UK Guinness World Record holder for balloon modelling, so don't miss out. If spookiness and gore gets you going, then the Chamber of Horrors 'Torture Cellar' Live experience is not to be missed – as long as you are over 10 years old and not of a nervous disposition!

The Hop Farm Family Park, is one of Kent's largest children's attractions and is packed with fun things to see and do.

To book advanced tickets for as little as £33 for a family ticket (two adults and two children) visit www.thehopfarm.co.uk.

To celebrate the opening of The Magic Factory, we're offering 10 lucky readers the chance to win a Family Ticket (two adults and two children) to The Hop Farm's Halloween week (from October 25-31).

Simply answer the question below and send your entry on a postcard along with your email address (if applicable), name, address, and daytime telephone number to Hop Farm Comp, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR.

Q) What is the name the new attraction opening at The Hop Farm?

The closing date is October 17, 2008.

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If you do not wish to receive any literature please write 'no literature' on your entry.

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Deep-clean for six hospitals in superbug fight

By **JENNA PUDELEK**
jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

HEALTH chiefs have ordered a deep-cleaning programme at six community hospitals as the battle against superbugs continues.

NHS West Kent said Hawkhurst Hospital, near Cranbrook, would be first, with every wall, ceiling fitting and bed in each ward and clinical area being scrubbed and disinfected.

Karen Jefferies, the primary care trust's deputy director for community services, said: "Tackling healthcare associated infections is a key priority for our service staff and the community hospital clinical staff.

"We aim to provide complete assurance to our patients, their families and our staff that we take the cleanliness of our hospitals seriously."

The trust reopened Livingstone Hospital in Dartford last week after it was given a major deep clean after the death of a patient during an outbreak of Clostridium difficile.

Community hospitals are particularly susceptible to infections such as C diff and norovirus, also known as winter vomiting disease.

KOS Media's hand-hygiene campaign has seen the award-winning publisher working alongside the NHS in Kent to highlight the importance of washing your hands regularly and using the alcogel provided in hospitals and healthcare centres.

CLEAN SAFE HEALTHY KOS media CAMPAIGN 2008

Basic hand hygiene at home, work and in healthcare centres is one of the simplest ways to help in the battle against killer superbugs such as MRSA and C diff.

The PCT has invested special deep-cleaning equipment as part of what will become an annual initiative.

Following a trial at Livingstone, the trust said MRSA-resistant disposable curtains, which are also flame retardant, would be fitted around beds in all its community hospitals.

The 22-bed Hawkhurst Hospital specialises in active rehabilitation for adults recovering from illness or injury and the trust said the deep-clean would cause minimum disruption to patients.

Livingstone Hospital, Tonbridge Cottage Hospital, Edenbridge and District War Memorial Hospital and Sevenoaks Hospital will be deep-cleaned as part of the autumn initiative.

Gravesham Community Hospital will be cleaned early in the new year.

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Tricksters dupe pensioner

A CON-ARTIST couple used a toddler in a buggy to steal from a pensioner.

A man called at a home in Marrose Avenue, Ramsgate, on Monday, September 29, and asked for water as his female companion was feeling faint.

The 86-year-old householder invited them in, but after they left in the direction of Coxes Lane he realised his wallet was missing.

The man is aged about 30, 5ft 10ins, and of medium build. He wore dark clothing. The woman has shoulder-length blond hair and wore a red jacket and light skirt. The child was dressed in pink or red.

Contact Det Con Mark Thornby at Margate police station on 01843 231055.

Kent Highway Services

For information and advice on travelling in Kent, go to page **16**.

For all our Traffic Regulation Orders, please go to page **44**.

Father tells of son's triumph over speech phobia

'Shy' boy emerges from the silence

By **JENNA PUDELEK**
jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

THE father of a teenager with a phobia of talking has shared his experiences of the condition and told how his son finally emerged from his world of silence.

John Moore, who lives in East Kent, said he wanted to highlight the rare condition – selective mutism – so other parents would be aware of it and seek the right help for their children.

He told how his son, Stephen, had been quiet from birth and as a three-year-old, when he had failed to start talking, was referred to a speech and language specialist.

But the family was told that he would catch up and there was nothing to worry about.

Throughout school, teachers referred to Stephen as shy and quiet. But he did begin to struggle with reading and writing, Mr Moore said.

"They had missed how serious things were because he was able to speak a little to adults, as long as no-one else was around to overhear," he said.

Selective mutism is an anxiety condition defined as the persistent failure of children to speak in specific social situations and affects six in every 1,000 youngsters.

Maggie Johnson, an expert in the condition and a speech and language therapist from Margate, told KOS Media last week how it often goes undiagnosed and untreated because of a lack of knowledge and awareness among health and education professionals.

Stephen's parents grew increasingly concerned as he progressed through secondary school still unable to speak in certain situations and became more reclusive.

"At open days alarm bells did ring," Mr Moore said. "But they never asked questions or referred him for assessment because he was not in trouble.

"I always had deep concerns about his extreme shyness and lack of speech. And I was worried about how much time he spent alone in his room, not able to interact. But I always trusted the system."

Eventually the couple demanded that Stephen saw a speech and language therapist and were referred to Ms Johnson.

He told how their lives "changed for ever" once they, and especially Stephen, knew what was wrong.

Their son, now 16, went on to get nine GCSEs at grade C and above and is now studying IT at a mainstream college.

Mr Moore added: "Stephen did really well handling his induction day recently. He was focused and confident in a new environment. He just keeps amazing me, how he is handling big changes in life with ease.

"He has transformed from a reluctant, shy speaker into a happy, confident and integrated person."

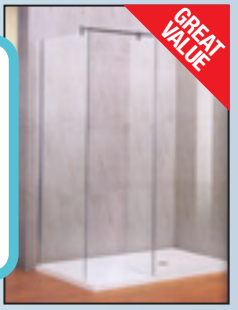
The Selective Mutism Information and Research Association (Smira) has held just its first awareness week about the condition, which started on Monday and ended this weekend.

• The names in this story have been changed because Stephen wants to leave his silent past behind him and start afresh at college.

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Not such a big cat after all

By **CHRIS MURPHY**
jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

A 'BIG CAT' spotted near a golf course turned out to be a domestic Burmese cat photographed from an unusual angle.

The spoof sighting was reported to the Big Cats in Britain website, which is run from Kent by Mark Fraser and sparked controversy among big cat hunters around the world.

Before it was discovered this was a domestic puss, Mr Fraser said even researchers in the USA are quite taken with the picture and discussing its identity.

The photographer took the dramatic looking picture on September 28 at around 5pm, at a golf course near Snodland and was with two other people who also saw the animal.

The witness claimed: "The cat was only around six metres away from me. It was near us for at least 10 minutes, then we moved on.

"The cat was black and brown around 18in high and maybe 26in long. It ears were pointed and the tail was quite long."

In their opinion it was a black leopard.

The witness said: "At first glance it looked like a black cat, but when we got closer it was bigger and of a very strong build. It had yellow eyes.

"The cat was just sitting when we first saw it, when it did begin to move it didn't pay much attention to us, apart from the occasional glance over. It seemed very relaxed."

But Mr Fraser, who posted the picture on his website's front page, has been forced to admit he was taken in. It was even believed to be an African golden cat.

He told KOS Media: "It is a Burmese cat. We sent a researcher to the scene and confirmed the cat, which lives in the area, was still walking around.

"It appears the witness took the photo from low down on the ground which made the cat look much bigger than it really is.

"This is the first time we have been taken in for a long time."

Mr Fraser said he is still interested in genuine sightings of any possible big cats in Kent.

• ***Real reports can be sent to www.bigcats inbritain.org.***

News and sport updated daily online
www.kentnews.co.uk



OPTICAL ILLUSION: Angle at which picture was taken made Burmese cat look larger than it is

Image of woman's attacker

POLICE have released a computer-generated image of a man they are searching for after an assault in the very early hours of the morning.

Around 12.15am on Sunday, September 21, a 25-year-old woman was walking along Camden Road in Tunbridge Wells away from the town centre.

As she reached Quarry Road near St Barnabas School, a man she had earlier noticed sitting on a shop doorstep ran up behind her and pulled her over.

During a struggle with the man the woman suffered a broken bone in her hand and grazes and bruising. The man received scratches to his head.



SEARCH: Do you know him?

Det Insp Dominic Kilbride said: "If you think this man looks like someone you know or you are aware of someone of this description who has recently had scratches on their head please contact us, we will be able to eliminate them from our inquiries very quickly."

The man is white, 6ft-6ft 3ins, 45-55, and stocky. He is bald on the top of his head but had short white hair around the back and sides. He wore a black suit, white shirt but no tie and black shoes.

Anyone with information about the man's identity can c call police on 01732 379217, Kent Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 or email appeals.west kent@kent.pnn.police.uk.

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Creamy garlic and parmesan mushrooms topped with mozzarella	Crespolini filled with mushroom spinach and ricotta served with a summer salad	Apple and cinnamon crumble with fresh double cream

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images of Kent

THIS photo was taken at the end of Ramsgate's breakwater by Colin Miles of Bapchild, Sittingbourne.

He said: "I think the seagull thought it had found its supper, but as it flew off it dropped the starfish back into the sea."

If you would like to see your photo of the county printed here, send it to KOS Media, Images of Kent, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR, or email editorial@kosmedia.co.uk.

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KOS MEDIA READER OFFER

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A snapshot of village life

Exhibition to tell fascinating stories from generations past and present

By **JENNA PUDELEK**
jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

AN AMATEUR historian is hoping a Kent village will unite over its fascinating past and shared future.

The Hothfield Then and Now exhibition is being held in the village hall on October 25 and will bring together personal memoirs, old photographs and memorabilia to give a snapshot of its history.

Chris Rogers, a member of the village's active history society, said: "We hope people will come and have a look and that it will appeal to everyone.

"I think it is a village of two halves – the local community in the centre and perhaps the more affluent out in the more rural areas."

But he said there was something special that drew people to the village near Ashford.

"It is a very small, unassuming village with an unfortunate reputation because of the council housing," Mr Rogers said.

"I've found it has got such a fantastic history and the old rural part, even the council estate, has a beautiful history.

"Young people who moved want to come back again, yet if I'm blunt there is no work or school, but it is a lovely place with a great community."

The exhibition will focus on its more recent history and how its purpose during both world wars shaped the village.



TRAINING GROUND: Trenches dug on the common so that World War One soldiers could train for battle



ON PARADE: John Roders, who was a member of the Church Lads' Brigade, with his troop outside St Margaret's Church in 1958

During Word War Two, Nissan Huts, basic make-shift shelters, were built on the common to house British troops training for battle.

After the war Ashford council converted the huts into housing for local people.

Living conditions were basic. The huts had three rooms, one cold tap and an outside toilet.

But the austere post-war conditions meant people were grateful for what they had. The council eventually turned the shelters into permanent housing, which makes up much of the village today.

John and Clare Nicholls moved to Hothfield as newlyweds in 1949 and still live in the village.

Mrs Nicholls said: "We felt very lucky at the time. It was a hard life but enjoyed it."

Mr Rogers has appealed for past and present villagers to share their Hothfield stories.

John Roder, who now lives in Canada, has fond memories of his 1950s childhood in the village.

He said: "Because the school was on the common, Miss Bottle [the headmistress] said no students were allowed to go anywhere near the bogs at recess.

"Like fleas to a dog though, it was very hard for the boys to stay away. In the spring, it was a great place to hunt for frogs, slow worms and newts.

"There were many times, while in the pursuit of some aquatic trophy, the school bell would ring and in a mad dash to get back to class, we would inevitably end up with a wet foot or two.

"The teacher would ask 'has anyone been playing in the bogs?' No-one would ever admit it, but the puddles under some desks were a dead giveaway."

The area was once home to an impressive Georgian manor house called Hothfield Place dating from the 1780s, which was demolished in 1954.

Mr Rogers, who has been researching the house because his home was part of the stable blocks, said there were many rumours surrounding its demise including that the Army had left it uninhabitable and that there had been a big fire.

However, it is more likely to have fallen victim to the post-war desire to make everything new rather than the current drive to protect and conserve.

"After the war no-one had any money, even the rich land owners could not afford to maintain them.

"At the time there was a lot of good buildings being demolished and a big drive for new housing to lift people's spirits, although now we would probably consider the housing quite ugly," he added.

• If you have a story to share about the village email Mr Rogers at hothfieldmemories@hotmail.com. The exhibition is being held from 11am to 4pm and admission is free.

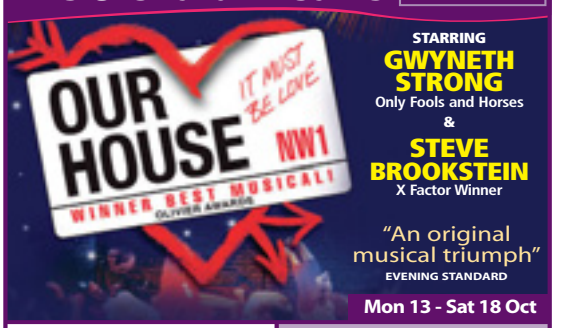
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HAPPY YEARS: John and and Clare Nicholls were married in 1949 (left) and have lived in Hothfield ever since

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KENT ON SUNDAY

COMMENT

It's the fat end of a nasty wedge

NEWS the NHS spent more than £560 million on obesity-related matters in Kent alone last year is sure to ruffle feathers throughout the county.

Unlike other serious health problems such as lung and heart disease, many people question whether obesity-related diseases are not just caused by people who eat too much and exercise too little.

The latter viewpoint is one held by Richard North, a spokesman for the right-wing think-tank The Social Affairs Unit, who believes obesity treatment should be rationed.

This would allow doctors to "send some fat people away, saying their problem is idleness and greed".

But regardless of whether obesity is the fault of the individual or not, does that mean the NHS should refuse to help them when the condition affects their health?

If so, should victims of lung cancer be left to die in pain if it was smoking that caused their illness? And should people with heart disease be shoved to one side because they enjoyed one fry-up too many?

The NHS has a duty to help people who are ill, regardless of whose fault it is, and obese people are no exception.

To poke fun and label them as "fat, lazy and idle" is unfair when many of us are responsible in some way for the illnesses that affect us now and in later life.

As with many illnesses, the best way to deal with them is to educate people about how best they can change their lifestyles.

To ridicule and exclude is not the answer.

OPINION: Steep learning curve



Federation of Small Businesses regional chairman ROGER HOUSE says the demands new diplomas will place on firms must be taken into account

PRESSURE from Government in its strive to modernise and redefine ways our young people are taught may be exciting and crucial routes to improving achievement, but has the process really been thought through regarding the demands the new diplomas put on business?

Diplomas offer a very interesting route to learning. For the first time there is a definite link between the academic and the vocational teaching elements, apart from the apprenticeship route.

Business has been crying out for better literacy, better numeracy and better 'soft' skills – attitude, timekeeping and communication.

With diplomas we have a process that sets out to link business with school and college as an integral part of the process. It also leads to direct work experience for students, which is an essential element in the learning process, providing a 'glue' to knowledge retention and as an inspiration to future career choice.

While attending the third annual conference on diplomas in September, I was sadly and inevitably struck by the lack of businesses in attendance. Hardly surprising – business does not yet know what is going to hit it in terms of demands from teaching establishments.

The diplomas set out to provide upwards of 100 guided learning hours per student, some as much as – or more than – 160 hours. Each student will be asked to focus on the business sector the diploma is set in, for example creative and media, together with the functional skills; English, maths and ICT. Whereas development has been started with the Sector Skills Councils, in my experience little is known of them or seen of them in day-to-day life.

As small-business people, we are working closely with schools, building up a business engagement process appropriate to the needs of both educators and employers – but driven by employers.

As most of the economy is made up of micro or small businesses, this army of entrepreneurs could offer young people a dynamic insight into enterprise and commerce. It is important that we engage with them effectively. This requires much improved communication from not just the education authority but the schools and education practitioners within them.

The key challenge of the work placement elements of the diploma lie in making the interaction between business and young people rich in content for students and easily managed and absorbed into the working day for business.

These are interesting times, but the introduction of diplomas won't automatically change perceptions or alter employers' approach to recruitment. We need to work together to communicate at every opportunity the value of diplomas, apprenticeships and work experience placements to business. The sign of success will be employers signing up to participate year after year.

We are playing our part through our community interest company, Education for Enterprise, in forging new and innovative links between education and industry. We benefit from the fact that as a senior part of the Federation of Small Businesses lobbying team, we move seamlessly from year seven in a local school to directors of Sector Skills Councils and indeed the education einister's office itself.

The message we take to Government is, however, a double-edged one. Yes, we think this is in principal a good idea, but has anyone stopped to really work out the number of hours of business commitment required across all the diploma subjects to make this an effective proposition? Furthermore, out of the whole process, what is the only part that is not funded? Business engagement.

With that in mind, we have set out to make positive contributions from business. We have been building up a fast-growing group of small-business ambassadors, are working with one of the creative and media diploma groups as business advisors, and – late-breaking news – we will soon be opening a commercial office operating from a local school.

Binding this into the curriculum, we will be able to bring business and students together across a long-term work-experience programme which we are confident will benefit all.

For more information, visit www.smallbusinessambassadors.co.uk or email info@small-businessambassadors.co.uk.

northfleet technology college

OPEN DAY EVENTS, NTC

Friday 17 October 12:30 – 4:30
Saturday 18 October 10:00 – 12:30

This specialist Technology College, soon to be completely rebuilt and resourced to the highest standards provides the quality education for students of all abilities. Sixth Form Examination results in 2008 continued to improve and the Open Day Events enables you and your son or daughter to see our facilities and the opportunities we offer. There will be lots of stalls and information for you to take away on all our 6th Form courses on offer from September 2009.

Features of this innovative, go-ahead school include:

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- A friendly, caring environment
- A dedicated team of teaching and support staff
- Excellent community links

Colyer Road, Northfleet, Kent, DA11 8BG
Headteacher: **John Hassett MA** Tel: **01474 533802**
Email: **office@ntc.kent.sch.uk** Web: **www.ntc.kent.sch.uk**

Gypsies and Travellers in your community

Consultation is underway on plans for new accommodation for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople across the South East.

Consultation by the South East England Regional Assembly runs until 21 November 2008. The Assembly wants views on 10-year targets for new spaces, and how they should be spread across the region.

Chairman of the Assembly's Regional Planning Committee Cllr Moira Gibson said:

"After years of uncertainty over making space for the Gypsy and Travelling communities, councils now have a duty to provide new spaces in a bid to cut homelessness and reduce unauthorised encampments. We want to hear everyone's opinion on the new plans."

The Assembly's work will agree how many spaces are needed in each council area; individual councils will decide the exact location of new spaces.

Key consultation questions include:

- Is 1,064 spaces for Gypsies and Travellers a suitable 10 year target?
- Is 276 spaces for Travelling Showpeople a suitable 10 year target?
- Which of four options gives the most suitable spread of camping spaces across the region?

In Kent, exhibitions will be held at:

Dover District Council Headquarters, White Cliffs Business Park, Whitfield
Mon 6th to Fri 17th October

Canterbury City Council Headquarters, Military Road, Canterbury
Mon 13th to Fri 24th October

Maidstone Library, St Faith Street, Maidstone
Mon 20th to Sat 25th October

Swale Borough Council Headquarters, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne
Mon 3rd to Fri 14th November

Swanley Library, London Road, Swanley
Mon 10th to Fri 21st November

Full consultation information and a short film on Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople is online at www.southeast-ra.gov.uk/consultations or call 01483 555202 for a printed copy. You can also send views to South East England Regional Assembly, Berkeley House, Cross Lanes, Guildford GU1 1UN.

Your shout!

SOUTH EAST ENGLAND Regional Assembly
COUNCILS AND COMMUNITIES IN PARTNERSHIP

Spend, spend, spend

The financial crisis this country now finds itself in surely reflects the fact that we lack a sensible voting system and end up with politicians with no common sense.

My solution to our woes is to let these failed organisations go to the wall. It seems madness for taxpayers' billions to be spent propping them up. The directors should be dealt with by the courts.

I would spend these billions on giving everyone on the electoral register half a million pounds as a one-off payment.

Think about it: all those about to lose their jobs and homes would be safeguarded until they could sort themselves out. It would help people struggling with their mortgage, wishing to move or buy their first home. People on benefits would, at a stroke, be removed from the system, saving a fortune.

The elderly would not have to worry about paying to keep warm or putting food on the table. Those in care homes would no longer worry about how they are going to pay for their care.

The retail sector would start to move again. Entrepreneurs being held back by lack of finance could start the revival. You would have a feelgood factor like never before.

There will be a few losers – mainly the greedy people who put us in this position – but it could give us the break this country needs to bring about political reform.

Then we could elect a government that will put this country first, introduce sensible legislation and ensure that never again will we allow market forces and financial greed to bring about the virtual collapse of our once great country. Let's go for it.

Mike Tibby, Dartford

Make the tea, Miliband

My ideal next government, which would save the country billions, would have Frank Field as Prime Minister, Vince Cable as Chancellor and Kate Hoey as Home Secretary. Sack the rest, but keep David Miliband as tea boy.

E Franklin, Hythe

Second-class service gets my stamp of disapproval

G Wanstall is right about the decline in the reliability of the postal service (Letters, last week).

I would like to know why we have first-class post when we only have a second-class postal service.

We get one delivery a day, at mid-morning, which used to be the time for second-class post to be delivered.

So why do we have first and second-class stamps? And why don't they put the value on them?

Does anyone know how much first and second class stamps cost? And do they know what weight and size these stamps cover?

If your letter is slightly oversize or overweight, the person who receives has to pay the excess postage, plus £1.

Royal Mail advertises this service as "postage made easy". Yes, easy for them to make more money.

Why don't the card shops have a Royal Mail size gauge and scales to let customers know how much it will cost in postage?

Peter Nassan, Chatham

Bikers are a menace

As one of your readers has pointed out, if Kent Police worked in Glasgow, Manchester or Liverpool for a while they would see what it is like to be real police officers.

They might also learn how they should respond to calls and deal with the public.

The police in this area are on a permanent holiday rota.

Not only are they useless at street level, what have they done about the worst traffic offenders on our roads? By which I mean motorcyclists.

They overtake in illegal manoeuvres, on bends, across double white lines, over chevrons, ride up the inside or outside of vehicles stopped at roadworks or traffic lights. Want to reduce accidents on our roads? Don't change the road layouts or speed limits, just control bikers.

And get the Government to force motor manufactures to govern all vehicles to a maximum speed. They do it with lorries, so why not cars, vans and bikes?

JL McFarlane, Dover

Still a force for good

I was disgusted to read about the abuse our police have to endure.

Gone are the days when children would hold the hand of the local bobby or say "good day" when they pass. Politeness, manners and community spirit have disappeared for ever – what a sad world. Who is to blame for all these changes? Just the people we voted into government, national and local, to rule what was once a wonderful land.

A land where we didn't fear being attacked in our own streets, where we didn't have to lock our doors, where we didn't have to screw things down to stop them being stolen.

When police, teachers and parents were allowed to tell kids off, chastise them if they were naughty and punish them if they went too far.

Our children are what government and parents have made them. No rules, no enforcement, no punishment and no discipline do not make for a good child.

I have every sympathy for the police. They have the worst job available, but thank God we have them.

It's just a shame they are not allowed to police in a way that will stop all the violence and injustice we have to contend with.

There are many people who still appreciate the police. Unfortunately, they are mostly part of the older generation, which was taught to help and respect others.

I feel sorry today's children. They will never feel part of a community.

I say this to the brave men and women in our police force: we need you and appreciate all you do for our community. Thank you.

Carole Russell, Ramsgate

Plods' attitude problem

While I can understand why Jayne Meredith Kite found the need to defend her own kind, clearly her blinkered views need turning on their head (Letters, last week).

Because when seen from the perspective of the man in the street, her choice of the phrase "you get what you give" takes on an entirely different meaning, since that exposes the precise reason why the police face criticism from the public (although I do not put any value on the increase in complaints against Kent Police).

Fittingly, Ms Meredith Kite chose to ignore the statistics published by KOS Media –

Letters continued on p32

YOUR LETTERS

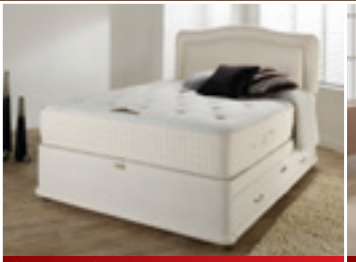
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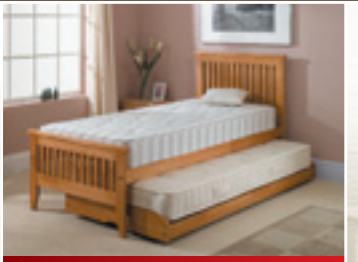
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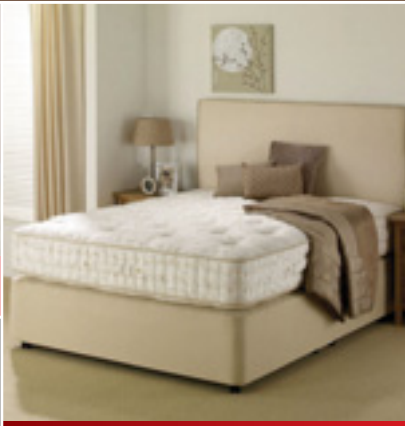
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*AEP (After Event Price)

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS

Including family announcements In partnership with the Kent registration service

To register Births, Marriages and Deaths contact the Kent registration service on 0845 824 7400
For advertising announcement enquiries telephone Kent on Sunday on 01303 817150

BIRTHS

BLACKBURN
Jimmy John born on 27th September 2008, weighing 7lb 7oz. Son to Nigel and Emma Blackburn in Ramsgate.

BROWN
Oliver Matthew born on 3rd October 2008, weighing 6lb 12oz. Son to Matt and Kelly Brown of Folkestone.

CHILDS
Reece Aaron born on 2nd October 2008 weighing 6lb 4oz to proud parents Martin and Lesley of Tunbridge Wells. You are the miracle we will love and cherish forever.

COKER
Philip and Margaret of Ramsgate celebrate the birth of their daughter Morgan Taylor Coker on 24th September 2008. Mummy and Daddys special little angel.

CUSATO
Ruby - Marie Imogene born on 6th September 2008, 4lbs 13oz. Daughter to Kisrty and Andrew in Margate.

DOBLE
Nathan and Diane celebrate the birth of their son Reece Peter Doble on 26th September 2008.

DRYDEN
Ricky and Tasha celebrate the birth of their daughter Leah Jean on 22nd September 2008. Precious sister for Bethany Louise.

FORD
Elizabeth Rose born on 2nd October 2008 weighing 7lb 3oz. Daughter to Susanna and Richard Ford from Whitfield. Little sister to William and Kimberly.

FOWLE
Jim and Claire are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter Harriet Theresa Fowle, born Saturday 13th September at 7.04pm, sister to James.

GAMMAGE
Paul and Emma Gammage of Maidstone celebrate the birth of their son Hayden Robert Steven Gammage on 26th September 2008, weighing 7lb 5oz.

GODLEY
Haydn born on 4th September 2008 weighing 7lb 1oz to proud parents Damian and Lynn of Tunbridge Wells.

GRETTON
Joanne and Andrew Gretton celebrate the birth of their daughter Caitlin Emily Gretton on 17th September 2008.

HARGRAVE
Sophie born on 26th September 2008, weighing 7lb 6oz. Daughter to Anna and David Hargrave in Maidstone.

HEWSON
Nick and Laura Hewson of Maidstone celebrate the birth of their son Rhys Jack Hewson on 18th September 2008.

ISHERWOOD
Eliot Thomas Hamilton born on 19th September 2008, weighing 6lbs 8oz. Son to Sam and Carlie in Dover.

JORDAN
Mason Haydan George born on 23rd September 2008, weighing 7lb 2oz. Son to Zoe and Stephen in Ramsgate.

KEELEY
Harry James born on 26th September 2008, weighing 8lbs 3oz. Son to Lucie and Paul in Manston.

LIGGETT - JONES
Richard and Natalie celebrate the birth of their daughter Sienna Lei Liggett - Jones on 21st September 2008.

McDERMOTT
John and Lopa are pleased to announce the safe arrival of Caelan John McDermott on 3rd September 2008 at 3.52am weighing 6lb 14oz. He kept us waiting for eleven days but eventually arrived happy,healthy and hungry.

MILTON
Jeremy and Sarah are delighted to announce the arrival of their beautiful son Theo Matthew James, born on 26th September 2008, weighing 7lbs 5oz. A brother to Harry.

MUHSIN-CRABBE
Muhsin-Crabbe. Adam and Zena are delighted to announce the birth of their baby son Zakariya Adam on 26th september 2008 at 6.56 am.

PETTMAN
Lyndsey and Daniel celebrate the birth of their son Dylan Joseph on 24th September 2008. Frankie is proud to welcome her little brother.

PHILPOTT
Jack Gerald born on 24th September 2008, weighing 7lbs 4oz. Son to Justin and Kelly in Dover.

RACKLEY
Kelly and Adam of Margate celebrate the birth of their son Brandon Adam on 26th September 2008. A brother to Jasmine and Abbie.

RUSSELL
Laura and Iain are proud to welcome their baby daughter Caitlyn Clare Russell, born 25th September 2008, weighing 7lbs 1oz. A little sister to James and Joel.

SEAMAN
Francesca Abigail born on 30th September 2008, daughter to Gary and Rebecca Seaman and baby sister to Danielle and Phoebe.

SMITH
Daniel William Alexander born on 7th September, weighing 9lbs 1oz. Son to Philip and Victoria Smith in Whitstable.

SYDNES
James and Sarah are pleased to announce the birth of their son Thomas James born on 17th September 2008 at Maidstone Hospital weighing 9lb 9oz.

TIDBALL
Martina and Oliver-Jon Tidball of Maidstone celebrate the birth of their son Michael Jon Tidball on 30th September 2008, baby brother to Adele and Alexander.

TUCKER
Martin and Sarah-Jane of Cliffsend celebrate the birth of their son Reuben William Albie on 18th September 2008.Special little brother for Lily-Baya.

VICARY
Grace Elizabeth born on 6th September 2008 weighing 10lb 2oz, a beautiful daughter for Paul and Emily.

WRIGHT
Keiran Leslie Matthew Nicholas born on 28th September 2008 weighing 7lbs 11oz. Son to Matthew and Anne Wright of Ashford, brother to Sally-Anne and Katie.

DEATHS

BANFIELD
William (Bill) Banfield of Maidstone passed away peacefully after a short illness on 4th October 2008, aged 84.

BRIGGS
It is with great sadness that I would inform friends and family of the sad death of Dinah Jane Briggs (nee Hands) after a brave fight with illness. She will be very sadly missed by her husband Chris and loving family. Funeral Service on Thursday 16th October at All Saints Church Langton Green T Wells 1.00 pm and after at Kent and Sussex Crematorium 2.00 pm. All welcome.

CASSIDY
Rev. Chris Cassidy of Maidstone died peacefully on 3rd October 2008. Requiem Mass at St Francis Church Week Street Maidstone at 12:30pm on Tuesday 14th October.

CHATFIELD
Alan Maurice peacefully passed away at home in Ashford on 28th September 2008. Will be sadly missed by his wife Pat and all his family. The funeral has already taken place.

ERRINGTON
Roger Errington of Barming passed away on 3rd October 2008 after a short illness. Enquiries to Family Funeral Services, Barming.

GREEN
Annie Ada Green of Maidstone passed away peacefully after a long illness on 6th October 2008, aged 75. Enquiries to Sears Funeral Service, Barming 01622 725035.

KELSALL
Kelsall (nee Finucane) Clare Muriel Teresa of Sandwich Kent.Passed away 5th October 2008 aged 74.Loving mother of Victoria and Liam,mother-in-law to Adrian and Sue,grandmother to Elena and Libby.Family flowers only:donations if wished to Parkinsons Disease Society c/o Dilnot-Smith (01304)380914.

NOLAN
Len formerly of The Crusader and The Flying Horse Boughton Aluph, peacefully passed away at home in Kennington on 1st October 2008. Funeral will take place at 10.40am on 13th October at Charing Crematorium. All welcome.

ROBSON
It is with great regret we announce the death of Joseph Daglish Robson who passed away on the 5th October 2008 after a long and very bravely fought illness. He will be greatly missed by his wife and family. Funeral service to be held on 17th October at 10 am St Albans Church Dartford followed by Cremation at Medway Crematorium.

SHILLING
We are very sad to announce that Mary Shilling passed away on the 3rd October 2008. She will be very sadly missed by all her family and friends. Her funeral will be held at Gravesend Cemetery on the 28th October an 11.00 am. All welcome.

SILLETT
Gordon Edward Sillett of Maidstone passed away on 1st October 2008, aged 77.

STEDMAN
May Stedman passed away 6th October 2008. Will be sadly missed but never forgotten for her caring ways by her daughter Paulette. Service will be held at St Michaels Church on 16th October at 12.30.

WOOD
Lilian Wood formerly of Erith died peacefully on September 25th 2008 - Funeral Service at Watling Street Chapel at 2 pm on 13th October 2008.

Letters continued from p31

which spoke for themselves and were alarming – before writing a letter which boiled down to little more than a self-congratulatory pat on the back.

She would have been better advised to ponder the underlying cause which gives rise to the police receiving so many complaints for rudeness, then channelling her energies into formulating an educated comment.

I am of retirement age and am acutely aware that incivility is arguably the biggest single failing of the men and women in blue, and particularly so at constable level.

And the reason? Almost certainly – and I care not a jot if this is standing on corns – because the job tends to attract the type who thrives on having an attitude problem.

Add a uniform which automatically presents the individual with power and arrogance is bound to surface.

So how can the police go about eradicating the rotten apples bringing them into disrepute and instead present themselves as if they were Dixon of Dock Green?

I don't believe for one second they could, for if PC Plods found to be rotten to the core were all weeded out, the police as a force would cease to exist at a stroke.

Brian A Lewis, Canterbury

Biofuels do have a role

As a scientist, I found last week's article by Pat Crawford on biofuels to be long on assertion but short on details or alternative solutions to our growing energy crisis.

There are, in fact, many potential benefits for British farmers and consumers from growing crops for biofuels, but the story contained several inaccuracies.

Yes, wheat and rice prices rose earlier this year, but have come down in recent months to more normal levels.

Wheat is not used for ethanol production in the UK and, more importantly, nowhere in the world is rice used for biofuels – or is it likely to be.

If we are really serious about reducing carbon dioxide levels, then first and second generation fuels, using biomass, household and industrial waste, should be developed as an crucial renewable energy source.

Instead, all we hear from some greens is that biofuels are bad, while they continue to drive gas-guzzling cars to meetings where they preach to others about the evils of peak oil. No-one has ever claimed that biofuels would completely replace petrol.

However, they should continue to play an important part in the alternative energy mix.

Dr Alan Bullion, Tunbridge Wells

Unnatural selection

Ian Davidson tries to justify gamebird shooting. This is surely in the eye of the beholder, everyone to their own.

I cannot agree that raising pheasants and partridges for shooting is a fine example of free-range farming.

Mr Davidson fails to draw attention to the plight of the wounded birds and the extent of their injuries. I doubt all members of the shooting fraternity are crack shots.

Driven out of their hiding places, these unsuspecting birds are forced to take pot luck in the sky.

They are not normally keen to get airborne, as power is required for lift off. We are talking about big birds, not wrens. The whole set up is unnatural.

It is unnecessary to bring cats into the debate. Pesticides are much more of a threat to songbirds. Cats belong to nature, man-made poisons do not.

Mary McNulty, Brenchley

Help end this cruelty

However much shooting enthusiasts try to pass off gamebird rearing and shooting as humane and an aid to conservation, the reality is that 20-35 million gamebirds are reared in Britain each year as live targets to be blasted out of the sky for no more than a passing pleasure.

Undercover investigations have revealed that these birds are reared in row upon row of tiny wire battery cages containing up to eight birds.

Due to stress, overcrowding and boredom they are forced to endure painful debeaking, or wear metal masks or blinkers due to feather-pecking in this abnormal environment.

They may also have to endure brails – loops of wire fitted over the shoulder and one wing – frustrating their basic behavioural instinct of preening to stop them escaping from unroofed cages.

In these overcrowded conditions bacterial, viral and parasitic diseases run rampant and the birds are dosed with antibiotics and other drugs to try to keep them alive.

Dimetridazole (DMZ), a known carcinogen put in the birds' food, is used to combat parasites, even though it has been banned in all other European countries.

At one farm 25,000 out of 300,000 pheasants died in their cages, which was reportedly considered a successful year.

The mass artificial release of such high numbers of birds leads to a massive imbalance in nature and introduces diseases to the wild bird population.

Snares set by shooting estates to eradicate mammals and birds attracted in, lead to further imbalances. About 1.5 million mammals and wild birds are killed each year, including protected species such as badgers, owls and kestrels.

Even domestic cats have been snared, poisoned or caught in body-crushing traps.

This is animal cruelty on an industrial scale, where millions of birds are abandoned in the countryside as disposable products of the shooting industry masquerading as conservation.

Any birds not shot will die of disease, predation, on the roads or starve, and the following season tens of thousands more will again be dumped. With so many shot, they cannot all be eaten and many are buried in mass graves.

Some 12 million unretrieved birds die slowly from gunshot wounds.

Holland has outlawed the production of birds for shooting due to moral as well as environmental reasons. About 8,000 tonnes of toxic lead shot are dumped on the countryside each year in Britain.

I urge readers to write to their MP and help put a stop to the rearing of birds for shooting and call on the Government to ban the manufacture, sale and use of all snares.

T Brooks, Canterbury

Limited imagination

I read with interest about Kent Police's use of an unmarked motorcycle for catching "criminal" road users.

It seems to be such a success that another motorcycle is going to be bought. Of course, it depends how you define 'success'.

It would seem from the article that a near 100 per cent conviction rate is classed as a success, thereby meeting preset targets for offences.

Success to me would be the lowering of accident figures, while being treated as a responsible adult as opposed to a mindless drone. My concern is that about 80 per cent of the prosecutions were for speeding.

As an example, take the A251 Faversham to Ashford road, which had a speed limit of 60mph. Now, on entering the road from the M2, there are five speed limit changes within two miles.

Children paint by numbers, now it seems we must disconnect our brains and drive by numbers. The character of the road has hardly changed in 40 years with the old 60mph limit in place, but it is now deemed dangerous to exceed the new 40 and 50mph limits.

We must all now be subject to more covert police surveillance by the simple act of a few councillors lowering speed limits.

If all those who keep babbling on about "dangerous" speeding were genuine in their opinions they should be made to resign if they have ever had a speeding conviction.

That includes MPs, councillors, police and the judiciary.

Not much chance of that!

Terry Hudson, Herne Bay

Thank God for Darwin

I am suitably humbled by Gerry O'Donnell's reply to my letter on creationism and evolution, although confused because he firstly appeared to agree with my "muddled analysis".

I eagerly await his "logical" explanation of how the blackpole warbler managed to find the high air currents that can carry it on a round trip of up to 14,000 miles, before it either died from cold or starvation.

Just one of the many thousands of amazing things in our incredible world that we see on programmes such as David Attenborough's Life series, that is difficult to fit in with "pure" evolution.

And where did love come from?

As he proved or demonstrated nothing, I take it the QED at the end of his letter wasn't the Latin version, but stood for Quite Easily Deluded.

Pure unassisted evolution, by definition, has always been a theory not a fact.

By the way, I'm a guitarist with rather short fingers. Can Mr O'Donnell explain how I can evolve longer ones, or will that take a few generations?

Phil Granger, West Malling

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New building to bridge skills gap

WORK is set to begin on a futuristic and eco-friendly learning and skills building in Dartford.

Kent County Council said it was the first centre of its kind in the county and will provide facilities for people aged all the way to 90.

The Learning and Community Campus at The Bridge is due to be completed by September next year and will include a primary school, a 26-pupil nursery, adult education facilities, a youth centre, a virtual library, children's and adult social services and a police point.

A central atrium, which will support a variety of plant life, rainwater harvesting and high levels of ventilation will booster the campus' green credentials.

Wayne Hemingway, collaborative designer on The Bridge, said: "This campus provides it all, and all in one place. Residents will not have to travel or seek help elsewhere, which is a key factor in sustainability.

"The campus will cement the new community already growing at The Bridge and provide a school where the children are as interested in attending as their parents."

Rachel a world beater in exam

RACHAEL Brailsford of Maidstone, has achieved the highest worldwide score for the Business and Analysis paper of the ACCA Qualification in the June exam sitting which was undertaken by 18,970 students globally.

Ms Brailsford, who is account senior at Thompson & Co said: "The structure of the qualification enabled me to gain invaluable practical experience while working towards the exams.

"Since completing my ACCA exams I have a renewed determination to continue with my studies to achieve my professional goals."

A spokesman for Thompson & Co said: "We are enormously proud of Rachael and her achievement. Since joining as a trainee straight from Chatham Grammar School in June, 2004, Rachael has been committed to her work and studies that have at times been demanding."

'Education and training letting youngsters down'

By **JENNA PUDELEK**
jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

KENT'S most senior Conservative politician has called for a radical overhaul of education and training in order to motivate young people and enable them to reach their full potential.

Cllr Paul Carter, the leader of Kent County Council, presented his vision for the future of secondary and further education at this year's three party conferences sharing the stage with a number of leading political figures.

"Far too many adults go through their entire working lives without ever making fully intentional, fully-informed career choices," he said.

"Too many end up in jobs by happenstance rather than through informed choice. They spend at least half of their conscious hours in work that they do not particularly like.

"The waste of human capital and failed ambition is a crime. The unrealised human potential is vast."

Cllr Carter was showcasing a policy discussion paper, Skills fit for the 21st Century: No Nore Wasted Opportunities, which he said was based on KCC's experience "transforming secondary education" across the county.

He said that nationally too many young people are being let down by an education and training system that is leaving them ill-equipped for employment and failing to reach their full potential, resulting in an estimated £3 billion annual welfare bill.



MOTIVATION: Paul Carter says adults need to be better informed on career options

Over the past eight years in Kent the secondary school curriculum has been broadened to allow for diversity and choice, he said.

Kent Success, an apprenticeship programme, he said, enabled young people to achieve industry relevant skills.

"We endeavour to see all our 16-19 year olds either in full-time education or employment and all our 19-24 year olds either in appropriate higher education or full-time employment, contributing to society and not becoming a burden on the welfare state.

"In parallel Kent has started to explore new methods and ways to deliver the very best careers advice and guidance, for far too long underplayed and undervalued across the country," Cllr Carter said.

He used statistics to prove his point about the need for better careers advice, saying that nearly 10 per cent of students drop out in their first year and more than 20 per cent fail to graduate.

More than 30 per cent of graduates end up in jobs that do not require a degree and the same amount regret their choice of degree.

He added: "This paper is about our journey to date, our ambition for the future and the challenges we must all overcome to do all we can to make sure there are no more wasted opportunities for the next generation of young people.

"This paper outlines our current thinking and hopefully brings a local perspective to the wider national debate."

At Labour's conference in Manchester, Cllr Carter was joined by the former education secretary Charles Clarke and in Birmingham at the Tories' conference last week he spoke alongside the shadow minister for vocational education, John Hayes.

Cllr Carter also debated with Phil Willis chair of the select committee on innovation, universities, science and skills, at the Lib Dem conference in Bournemouth.

Show hits the road in call for new engineers

SCRAPHEAP-themed roadshows are set to be held in Medway schools in a bid to encourage students to go into a career in engineering.

Eight schools and 240 pupils are taking part in the events which use theatre and interactive workshops to introduce young people to the world of technology, organisers BAE Systems, a British defence and aerospace company said.

Martin Ridley, the company's learning and development manager, said: "Having worked with apprentices for nearly 10 years, BAE Systems is beginning to reap the rewards of working with the school community."

The show introduces its audience to Scrapheap Charlie – a young inventor who builds vehicles from recycled scrap.

The roadshows are running next week from Monday to Friday and the schools taking part include Rainham School for Girls, Chatham South School and Fairview Primary School in Gillingham.

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For an application form contact: KCA (UK) Dan House, 44 East Street, Faversham, Kent ME13 8AT. Tel: 01795 590635, Fax: 01795 539351, Email recruitment@kca.org.uk, website www.kca.org.uk

Closing date: 24th October 2008

Interview date: 30th October 2008

KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all and welcomes applications from people with experience of substance use or who have had previous problems with substance misuse.

Charity No: 292824

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Closing date: 24th October 2008

Interview date: 5th November 2008 in Folkestone

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Prospective candidates may contact Liz Woodward, Chief Executive, for an informal chat by ringing the same number or email liz.woodward@dgsmencap.org.uk.

Closing date: Friday 31st October 2008
Preliminary interview: Wednesday 12th November 2008
Interview date: Monday 24th November 2008

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TRUSTEES

The KCA board consists of 12 trustees who play a key role in ensuring that the organisation operates in line with its charitable objectives. Trustees meet regularly with members of the KCA senior management team to review performance, formulate policy and revise procedures. You would be directly involved in steering the continued success of this developing charity. Trustees attend meetings 8 times per year in Faversham (normally 17.30 to 19.30), and are also invited to attend service centres and occasional KCA events.

We are looking for trustees who have an interest in the drug, alcohol and mental health issues. We particularly welcome applications from within finance, law and public services sectors and from people with experience in service provision, including previous service users.

KCA was founded in 1975 and has approximately 300 staff operating in over 20 service centres around the South East and in London. The organisation prides itself on developing innovative services, and on responding to the needs of the communities it serves.

Expenses can be claimed by trustees.

If you are interested or would like to know more, please contact the Chief Executive, Anton Derkacz (anton.derkacz@kca.org.uk) on 01795 590635 or the Chair of Trustees, John Holroyde on jholroyde@btinternet.com, www.kca.org.uk

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A genuine hands-on leadership role, directly responsible for the day-to-day supervision of a production team, with a brief to ensure performance levels meet and exceed output targets across the key areas of safety, quality and productivity. With a proven track record in a similar production or first-line management position, the successful candidate must have a solid production background gained in a food manufacturing environment, coupled with a results-driven approach and strong leadership skills.

This position requires a Sunday-Thursday work pattern.

Telesales/Order Processor

Ideal candidate will be processing orders, answering sales calls, processing faxed and emailed orders, ringing existing account holders to request orders and must be computer literate, hard working and enthusiastic.

This is a part time position and the successful candidate will be required to work from 10am to 2.30pm Monday to Friday.

Driver

Early morning delivery driver (up to 3 tonnes van) required to deliver in the South East and London area.

Hours up 40 per week starting early morning with good rates of pay.

Successful applicants must have a clean driving licence and be presentable and polite.

Please apply in writing, enclosing your CV, to:
The Personnel Manager, Anchor Catering Ltd.,
Unit 2 Wotton Trading Estate, Wotton Road, Ashford,
Kent TN23 6LL or by e-mail to
mail@anchorcatering.co.uk
Telephone: 01233 665533

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SC Motor Factors

DELIVERY DRIVERS

Ashford £5.73-£5.85 per hour with bonus

We are Kent's largest independent motor factor with 5 branches across the South East and over 20 years experience of supplying car parts to garages and workshops. We will shortly be opening a new branch in Ashford and have opportunities available for delivery drivers.

If you have a full driving licence, are 25 years of age or over and are willing to work alternate Saturdays, please call Peta Budd on 0208 308 6812. Alternatively you can visit our website www.scmf.co.uk for an application form.

Closing date: 22nd October 2008

Integrated Technologies Limited

Research & Development Trainee

ITL is a world leader in the Design and Manufacture of Medical and Scientific Instruments.

There is an exciting opportunity for a young technically minded person to join an experienced multidisciplinary team of engineers, creating a blend of traditional and state of the art products.

The ideal person should be a "team player" being dynamic innovative and self motivated. You will be required to show good problem solving skills as well as striving for sound design and have a keen interest in Engineering.

Personal development and training will be provided within the workplace, this activity will be bolstered by structured academic enhancement. The details of this advancement will be designed to optimise the candidate's potential.

Your long-term aim should be to become a competent multidisciplinary engineer.

Please forward your CV to Vicki Newman, Integrated Technologies Ltd., Ellingham Way, Ashford, Kent TN23 6NF, or email: vn@itl.co.uk

Keith Graham Academy
Hairdressing Training Provider

Key Skills Lecturer

To teach Key Skills Level 1 & 2 in Literacy and Numeracy to Post 16 Apprentices in our three training academies in Maidstone, Folkestone and Ramsgate. DTLLS and A Units desirable or alternative teaching qualification. 32 hours per week and must have own transport.

CVs to Amanda Green
Unit 12 Heron Business Centre,
Henwood Industrial Est, Ashford, Kent TN24 8DH
01233 664171

To advertise in this section
01303 817040

ROCKDALE

A residential care home for older people in Sevenoaks seeks a

SENIOR RSW

(Day Care Team Leader)

Could you take responsibility for the home during your shift? Can you manage staff? Are you able to provide care to residents and liaise with their families and visiting medical staff?

The basic pay is £10.04 per hour and £12.55 per hour for weekends and bank holidays.

37 hour week on rota NVQ3/First Aid/Safe Handling of Medicines certificates desirable but various training is available.

6 wks leave, pension scheme, company sick pay after 6 mths, free parking on site. Some work clothing provided, meals on duty.

Please ring Jay Drake on 01732 458762 or Rockdale House on 01732 454763 for a chat/application form.

This post will be subject to an Enhanced CRB disclosure

AGE CARE

THE ROYAL SURGICAL AID SOCIETY
High Broom Residential Home
Crowborough

HOUSEKEEPER

Mon to Fri – 6 hrs a day
£7.00 per hour
Excellent Benefits Package
Accommodation available
Enthusiastic Person with an eye for detail to lead our team of dedicated Domestic Staff to maintain our beautiful care home to a very high standard.
Please call Helen on 01892 654027
Closing date for applications 17/10/08

We require part time or full time

COMMUNITY CARE WORKERS

for Ashford and the Marsh
Applicants must have their own vehicle
We offer flexible shifts, which include mornings, evenings and weekends
We provide full training, uniform, equipment, CRB check and weekly pay at good rates.

Please call 01797 361889
E.mail countryfolkcare@hotmail.co.uk
Fax No. 01797 367493

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Opportunities throughout Kent

Driver Hotline **0845 61 20 444**

GREENSLEEVES HOMES TRUST

Requires Care Staff (£6.60 - 7.65 per hour) and Kitchen Staff (£5.75 - 6.90 per hour) at Mount Ephraim House, Tunbridge Wells

Greensleeves Homes Trust is a "not-for-profit" charitable organisation providing residential care throughout the midlands, west and south of England. The aim of the organisation is to supply care and support in a way that takes into account individual needs and respects the rights of residents to continue to choose how to live their lives. The Head Office is based in London, but each individual Home retains its own character and is responsible for its residents' day to day requirements. Mount Ephraim House has a distinguished and aristocratic history dating back to 1606. The Home is an impressive, period building set on the top of Mount Ephraim. It has delightfully well-kept, sheltered gardens and walkways; also much of interior is classical with carved wooden ceilings and paneled walls. Mount Ephraim House has a total of 38 bedrooms.

Senior Care Assistants (Full Time or Part Time)

We require senior care assistants to work throughout the week. The purpose of the senior care assistant role is to support the Manager and Management Team in all aspects of the Home's management and to teach, and lead by example, new and inexperienced staff members in all aspects of their work in the home. Senior Care Assistants are also required to provide on-call cover where necessary. The successful applicants must be at least NVQ 2 qualified and have experience of providing care in a similar capacity. NVQ 3 qualification and previous experience of supervising care staff is desirable.

Day Care Assistants (Full Time or Part Time)

We require care assistants to work throughout the week. The purpose of the care assistant role is to meet the personal care needs of residents and to help in the care of the residents' physical environment. Care assistants will also be expected help out in the general day to day running of the home. The successful applicants will need to demonstrate a genuine desire to meet the needs of residents in a way that preserves their dignity, and the ability to work to high standards. Previous experience of care and/or an NVQ level 2 qualification is desirable.

Night Care Assistants (Part Time)

We require night care assistants to work throughout the week. The purpose of the night care assistant role is to provide wakeful night duty cover in the Home and to undertake certain domestic duties which can be performed during night hours. The successful applicants will need to demonstrate a genuine desire to meet the needs of the resident in a way that preserves their dignity, and the ability to work to high standards. Previous experience of care and/or an NVQ level 2 qualification is desirable, together with an understanding of the difficulties of night work.

Evening Cooks & Weekend Cooks (Part time)

We require Cooks to work in the evening or on a Sunday. The Sunday shift would be 8:00am – 2:00pm, whilst evening shifts will be 3:00pm – 7:00pm. The purpose of the Cooks role is to prepare and serve nutritionally balanced and attractively presented food to residents. Cooks will also be required to maintain hygiene standards, and supervise staff. The successful applicants will be able to demonstrate a genuine desire to work with food and will have had previous experience of working in a food preparation role in a similar environment.

Catering Assistants (Part Time)

We require catering assistants to work during the week and at weekends. The shifts would be 8:00am – 2:00pm.

The purpose of the Catering Assistants role is to assist the cook in the preparation of a healthy diet for the residents within the Home. The successful applicants will enjoy working in a kitchen environment and be able to demonstrate the ability to work under pressure. Previous experience of working in a kitchen environment would be desirable.

To apply for any of the above roles please request an application pack from David Wicksteed, Greensleeves Homes Trust, Unit 2 Regent Terrace, Rita Road, LONDON, SW8 1AW, (020 7793 1122) (david.wicksteed@greensleeves.org.uk). The closing date for all posts is Monday 3rd November 2008.

The successful applicants will be appointed subject to a POVA check and an enhanced CRB disclosure. These posts are not subject to the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974.

Greensleeves Homes Trust is an equal opportunities employer and welcomes applications from all sections of the community.

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Crowborough, East Sussex

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To join our friendly team
Shifts are 7-2 or 2-9, alternate weekends
From £6.65 per hour
Enhancements for weekends and qualifications
Accommodation available
Please call Helen on 01892 654027
Closing date for applications 17/10/08

AGECARE

THE ROYAL SURGICAL AID SOCIETY
High Broom Residential Home
Crowborough
"New Position"

NIGHT TEAM LEADER

8.45pm to 7.15am
£7.54 per hour
Weekend Enhancement
Excellent Benefits Package,
Accommodation Available
Have you achieved an NVQ 3 or would you like the chance to train?
If so please call Helen on 01892 654027
Closing Date for applications 17/10/08

ACCOMMODATE

Staff Vacancies Maidstone Branch
Do you have a good knowledge of residential sales and lettings?
Looking for a new position?
Call now and speak to Kay on 01622 766272

Course Administrator

required for a training company based in Womenswold, just outside Canterbury.
Duties to include telephone, filing and general administration.
Monday-Friday 8:30am to 5:00pm.
Please telephone Jeanette on 01227 831840 or via email jeanette@amacsports.co.uk for further information.

CLEANER

Required for local community centre in Canterbury. 10 hours per week/£6.10 per hour. Weekdays, flexible hours.
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MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN

Required. Part time - mainly early mornings. Applicant to have had previous experience of maintaining a building and preferably swimming pools. Applicant must be able to start late November.
To apply please email CV and covering letter to:
Ops.Maidstone@davidlloyd.co.uk
Closing Date 24th October 08

Nampak Cartons, one of the Country's leading Carton Manufacturers has a vacancy at their Gillingham site for:

A PART TIME SALES ADMINISTRATOR
(on a job-share basis)

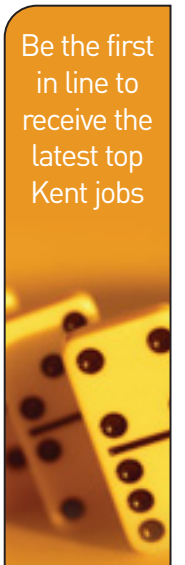
Reporting to the Customer Services Manager, you will be expected to work Monday – Friday, 2.00 p.m. – 5.00 p.m. (although there is a possibility of working until 5.30 p.m. if preferable). You will also be expected to work full-time during all school holidays.

If you are interested in the above role (a job specification is available upon request) then please send a covering letter with a copy of your current CV stating your salary expectations to:

HR Department, Nampak Cartons, Grosvenor Road, Gillingham Business Park, Gillingham, Kent, ME8 0SA or email Stephanie.Porter@eu.nampak.com

Closing date for applications
Friday 17th October 2008

Nampak Cartons



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The Towers School

Faversham Road, Kennington, Ashford, Kent TN24 9AL
Tel: 01233 634171 • Fax: 01233 628326
Email: admin@towers.kent.sch.uk

11 – 19 Kent High School
1400 Students on roll (240 in 6th Form)

ICT TEACHER

required for January 2009

Salary Negotiable but will include a TLR for responsibility of a keystage.

Ofsted in May 2008 described Towers as a 'good school', and this is a key post in the future development of the school as we strive towards 'outstanding'. We are a successful Business and Enterprise specialist school, with Full Service Extended School status, and one of the largest Sixth Forms in the County.

This is an excellent opportunity for someone who is motivated, enthusiastic and forward thinking to join a strong department that has benefited from a recent £0.5 million ICT upgrade. Ability to teach all keystages is essential and knowledge of vocational courses in ICT would be an advantage.

'An enterprise culture permeates the school' (Ofsted May 2008)

Applications are by CV and covering letter by email on admin@towers.kent.sch.uk , fax on 01233 628326 or post. Please mark for the attention of Mrs Kyla Weeden. Closing date Friday, 17th October 2008

Hillview School For Girls

Brionne Gardens, Tonbridge, Kent TN9 2HE
Tel :01732 352793 Fax: 01732 368718
e-mail:admin@hillview.kent.sch.uk

Hillview is a progressive non–selective school in the heart of Kent, a High Performing Specialist School with excellent resources and a recently completed £5m build.
" A good and improving school with some outstanding features."
"Students enjoy coming to school and are proud of it." (Ofsted 2008)

Required for January/April 2009

Director of Specialism: Performing Arts

Assistant Headteacher(L14-18)

A rare opportunity has arisen for an outstanding, ambitious and innovative leader and teacher to join the Senior Leadership Team of our dynamic and highly successful school.

We are looking for someone who:
- has a passion for teaching and learning
- has the ability to empower and motivate
- can think strategically and generate new ideas
- has the drive and tenacity to translate vision into reality
- has experience of leading an outstandingly successful Performing Arts faculty or large department
- is fully committed to further enriching the wider life of the school and community.

We can offer you:
- exciting/challenging whole-school responsibilities not confined to the traditional boundaries
- leadership of a Learning Community of approximately 300 students aged 11-18
- a successful record of innovation
- a strong team ethos with a well-established induction programme and excellent opportunities for professional development
- a large and growing mixed sex Sixth Form (280)
- a diverse, enthusiastic and mutually supportive leadership team.

Visits to the school are very welcome. Please telephone or e-mail the school for an application pack. Closing date for applications: 9.00a.m. on 20th October 2008

THE THOMAS AVELING SCHOOL

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

(A Foundation Technology College)
Arethusa Rd, Rochester, Kent ME1 2UW
Headteacher: Mr R J Hart, BEd, MA

Tel: 01634 844809 Fax: 01634 818385
Email: office@thomasaveling.co.uk Website: www.thomasaveling.co.uk/jobs

FINANCE OFFICER

Full time (37 hours per week)
Salary: NJC Scale B2 point 32-41 (presently £26,067 - £33,291)

We are seeking to recruit a pro-active and self-motivated person, with a practical aptitude for personnel management and experience of working in an accounting environment, preferably within the educational sector, to lead and further develop the Finance Office at this popular Rochester secondary school. Formal accounting qualifications preferred but not essential as the opportunity to gain relevant qualifications will be afforded to the right candidate. The post-holder will need to be responsive to demand, capable of working on their own initiative and be a key member responsible for maintaining school finance and accounting systems.

JUNIOR FINANCE CLERK

Full time term-time only (37 hours per week)
Salary: NJC Scale D2 point 12-21 (presently £14,492 - £18,430 pro-rata)

We are also seeking to recruit a self-motivated Finance Clerk, reporting to the Finance Officer, to support the creditor control, cash management and banking functions. Candidates should be conscientious, accurate and computer literate. This post will provide an opportunity for the successful candidate to develop essential skills for progression in the area of Finance.

Further details for both vacancies and school application form available on school website

The Thomas Aveling School is an Equal Opportunities Employer and is committed to safeguarding the welfare of all students. Offers of appointment will be subject to an enhanced CRB check

Letters of application with CV to be sent to: Mr S Rayner, Finance and Business Manager to the school at the above address.

Closing date for applications: WEDNESDAY 22nd OCTOBER 2008

Teachers Needed

Primary, Secondary and SEN.

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Foster carers wanted

The Caldecott Foundation, which cares for vulnerable children who have experienced extreme trauma and disruption, seeks dedicated and highly motivated foster carers. Comprehensive training and support given, plus excellent rates of pay.

Contact Jamie Bromfield or Erica Eversfield on 01303 815648 or email fostering@caldecottfoundation.co.uk

The Caldecott Foundation, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SP.

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Foxwood School

Seabrook Road Hythe CT21 5QJ
Tel: 01303 261155

Foxwood is a day and residential weekly boarding school for children with severe learning difficulties, challenging behaviours and autism.

Teaching Assistants required - *November 2008:*

Hours of work: - 31 hours a week (8.45 a.m. - 3.45 p.m.) Mon–Friday (term time only).
Rate of Pay: Kent Scheme 3 (£7.23 - £8.20 per hour) depending on experience and qualifications.

Due to new pupil referrals, we currently have vacancies for 2 teaching assistants. Relative NVQ2 qualification or equivalent is desirable.

The School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Interested applicants please telephone the school or email: office@foxwood.kent.sch.uk for an application form.

Closing date for applications: Monday 20th October 2008
Interviews: Wednesday 22nd October
Shortlisted candidates will be notified by phone



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CAREERS IN HEALTHCARE ACROSS EAST KENT

Your Skills **Our Vision**

NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent

From Sheerness to Dungeness, Ashford to Ramsgate, over 710,000 people depend on Eastern and Coastal Kent NHS – and we put them at the heart of everything we do. All our staff work hard every day to improve health and well-being for the local community, to tackle health inequalities and to provide high quality, responsive and efficient services, both directly and through commissioning.

As one of Kent's largest employers, we aim to employ and train a world-class workforce capable of meeting our many challenges. In return for your skills and commitment we offer wide-ranging staff benefits including real investment in personalised career development, flexible working, childcare, final salary pension scheme and in-house discounts.

Why not join us?

STAFF BENEFITS PACKAGE

- Final salary pension scheme
- Occupational sickness benefit
- Lease car scheme for eligible staff
- Occupational health service
- Childcare
- Enhanced maternity pay
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- Enhanced adoption pay
- Flexible Working Policies
- Extensive Training Programs
- Long service awards
- In-house discounts & external benefits

SELECTION OF CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES

ADMIN AND CLERICAL

Job Title: Case Manager
Salary: Band 6 £24,103 to £32,653 pa
Location: East Kent Locality
Hours: 37.5
Ref: 767-EIC520
Closing date: 16/10/08

Job Title: Team Secretary
Salary: Band 3 £14,834 to £17,732 pa
Location: Swale Area
Hours: 37.5
Ref: 767-EIC521
Closing date: 16/10/08

Job Title: Team Secretary
Salary: Band 3 £14,834 to £17,732 pa
Location: Ashford
Hours: 37.5
Ref: 767-EIC522
Closing date: 16/10/08

Job Title: Team Secretary
Salary: Band 3 £14,834 to £17,732 pa
Location: Margate
Hours: 37.5
Ref: 767-ECC518
Closing date: 16/10/08

Job Title: Receptionist/ Clerical Officer
Salary: Band 2 £12,922 - £15,950 pa
Location: Herne Bay
Hours: 37.5
Ref: 767-EIC515
Closing date: 16/10/08

Job Title: Team Secretary
Salary: Band 3 £14,834 to £17,732 pa
Location: Canterbury Area
Hours: 37.5
Ref: 767-EIC525
Closing date: 16/10/08

Job Title: Team Secretary
Salary: Band 3 £14,834 to £17,732 pa
Location: Dover Area
Hours: 37.5
Ref: 767-EIC524
Closing date: 16/10/08

Job Title: Public Health Business Manager
Salary: Band 7 £29,091 to £38,352 pa
Location: Maidstone, Kent
Hours: 37.5
Ref: 767-ECC513
Closing date: 17/10/08

Job Title: Senior Public Health Information Analyst
Salary: Band 7 £29,091 to £38,352 pa
Location: Maidstone, Kent
Hours: 37.5
Ref: 767-ECC516
Closing date: 17/10/08

Job Title: Patient Choice Advisor
Salary: Band 3 £14,834 to £17,732 pa
Location: Ashford
Hours: 25
Ref: 767—-ASH156
Closing date: 17/10/08

Job Title: Medicines Management Secretary
Salary: Band 3 £14,834 to £17,732 pa
Location: Dover
Hours: 10
Ref: 767—-ASH154
Closing date: 17/10/08

NURSING AND MIDWIFERY

Job Title: Community Nurse
Salary: Band 5 £20,225 to £26,123 pa
Location: Ramsgate
Hours: 37.5
Ref: 767-EIC498
Closing date: 16/10/08

Job Title: Lead Matron
Salary: Band 7 £29,091 to £38,352 pa
Location: East Kent Locality
Hours: 37.5
Ref: 767-EIC519
Closing date: 16/10/08

Job Title: Community Nurse
Salary: Band 5 £20,225 to £26,123 pa
Location: Deal
Hours: 30
Ref: 767-EIC497
Closing date: 16/10/08

Job Title: Community Nurse
Salary: Band 5 £20,225 to £26,123 pa
Location: Margate
Hours: 30
Ref: 767-EIC499
Closing date: 16/10/08

Job Title: Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults Nurse
Salary: Band 7 £29,091 to £38,352 pa
Location: Protea House, Dover
Hours: 37.5
Ref: 767—-ASH125
Closing date: 17/10/08

Job Title: Clinical Sister / Charge Nurse x2
Salary: Band 6 £24,103 - £32,653 pa
Location: Herne Bay and Whitstable Area
Hours: 37.5
Ref: 767-EIC510
Closing date: 17/10/08

Job Title: Children's Primary Mental Health Worker
Salary: Band 6 £24,103 to £32,653 pa
Location: Ramsgate, Kent
Hours: 22.5
Ref: 767-ECC501
Closing date: 20/10/08

MEDICAL AND DENTAL

Job Title: Pharmacy Technician Medicines Support Service
Salary: Band 5 £20,225 to £26,123 pa
Location: Protea House, Dover
Hours: 37.5
Ref: 767-ECS502
Closing date: 17/10/08

Job Title: Dental Officer
Salary: £36,792 to £57,232 pa
Location: Deal/New Romney/Ramsgate
Hours: Full and Part Time hours available
Ref: 767-ECS458
Closing date: 17/10/08

For further information and to apply, please visit www.eastcoastkentpct.nhs.uk

We are an equal opportunities employer Committed to safeguarding children and vulnerable adults

achievement employability experience development

Sheppey College

Sheppey College is part of Canterbury College. Canterbury College is a leading FE and HE College which offers opportunities and an environment in which our 800 staff and 12,000 learners can reach their potential, so we can achieve our goal of being one of the best Colleges by 2010. To support this, the College has been undergoing a £50 million re-development, which opened in January 2008. We are now developing plans for Phase 3, for completion in 2012.

Supply Lecturer Skills for Working Life — **SH/SFL**
Various hours available, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 pro rata per annum

Learning Support Construction and Key Skills — **08/92**
18.5 hrs per week, 38 weeks term time.
Salary starting from £16,914 pro rata per annum

Academic Support Assistant — **08/74**
18.5 hrs per week, salary starting from £15,085 pro rata per annum

Administrative Assistant — **03/14**
37 hrs per week, salary starting from £15,085 per annum

Examinations/Administrative Assistant — **06/176**
27.75 hrs per week, salary starting from £15,085 pro rata per annum

For an application pack please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.

The closing date for the above posts is Monday 27th October 2008 at 12 noon

Staff benefits include:

- Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme
- Generous Holiday Allowance
- Proximity to Mainbus / Train Stations
- Staff Discount Scheme

Canterbury College is an equal opportunity employer

the University of Greenwich at Medway

PART TIME PERSONAL ASSISTANT/ADMINISTRATOR

Ref: 01086/K3

In this post you will liaise closely with the other part time Personal Assistant/Administrator to provide administrative support to the Head of School and other staff within the School of Engineering. You will perform the whole range of secretarial and clerical duties including taking minutes for meetings. We are looking for someone with Office Studies/Administration at NVQ 3 or equivalent relevant experience. You must have initiative but be able to work within a strong team ethos. You will have some tight deadlines and need to be well organised. You will be working with a wide range of people so excellent interpersonal skills are vital.

Hours of work 17.5 per week

Salary pro rata to £19,841 - £22,332 per annum

PART TIME ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Ref: 01087/K3

The School of Science employs around 90 staff and deals with about 2800 students. It runs undergraduate and post graduate degrees in a wide range of science subjects including biomedical, environmental, pharmaceutical and sports sciences.

You will work as part of a team liaising with School and University staff to improve student attendance. This involves the monitoring of attendance, the adherence to learning contracts and general compliance with University systems and regulations designed to support students.

Hours of work 21 per week.

Salary pro rata to £17,169 – £19,263 per annum

TECHNICIAN (FIXED TERM FOR 2 YEARS)

Ref: 01088/K3

You will work in a large University teaching laboratory in the general areas of chemistry and pharmaceutical science. The majority of the work will involve preparation for laboratory classes and assistance with projects for both undergraduate and MSc students.

You should be educated to at least A-level (or equivalent) and should possess good knowledge of working in a chemistry laboratory and be able to use appropriate equipment. Good IT skills are also required especially in the use of email, word processing and spreadsheets. You will be a team player and operate well under pressure.

This post is fixed term for 2 years.

Salary £17,169 - £19,263 per annum

We aim to be an equal opportunities employer and welcome applications from all sections of the community.

To obtain further particulars and an application form visit our website www.gre.ac.uk, email: jobs@gre.ac.uk or write to the Personnel Office, University of Greenwich, Avery Hill Road, London, SE9 2UG quoting the job reference. Applications should be returned by 5:00 pm on 21 October 2008.

the UNIVERSITY of GREENWICH

A new dance company in kent is looking to recruit

DANCE TEACHERS

to teach for an hour a day, from one to five days per week. We run fun freestyle dance classes and are looking for people who are passionate about dance and have had some experience working with young people.

If you are interested please call 07896198442

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Canterbury College

Canterbury College is a leading FE and HE College which offers opportunities and an environment in which our 800 staff and 12,000 learners can reach their potential, so we can achieve our goal of being one of the best Colleges by 2010. To support this, the College has been undergoing a £50 million re-development, which opened in January 2008. We are now developing plans for Phase 3, for completion in 2012.

Quality and Innovations Manager — **08/113**
37 hrs per week, salary starting from £37,529 per annum

Head of Faculty Science & Humanities — **06/103**
37 hrs per week, salary starting from £42,128 per annum

Coordinator Public Services — **CO46**
37 hrs per week, salary starting from £27,209 per annum

Co-ordinator of WBL and other Part-time Motor Vehicle programmes including IMI ATA — **CO106**
37 hrs per week, salary starting from £27,209 per annum

Coordinator Mathematics — **08/61**
37 hrs per week, salary starting from £27,209 per annum

Lecturer Health & Social Care — **07/81**
18.5 hours per week, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 pro rata per annum

Lecturer Animal Care & Land Based — **01/144**
18.5 hours per week, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 pro rata per annum

Lecturer Animal Care and Land Based — **07/87**
37 hours per week, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 pro rata per annum

Lecturer Early Years — **08/110**
37 hours per week, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 per annum

Lecturer Basic Skills — **05/08**
18.5 hours per week, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 pro rata per annum

Supply NVQ Assessors Early Years — **S/NVQ/EY**
Various hours available, salary range £18,295 – £26,232 pro rata per annum

Technician to Support Applications (Standard) — **ATS**
37 hrs per week, salary starting from £18,963 annum

Network Technician (Standard) — **NT1**
37 hrs per week, salary starting from £16,914 annum

Service Desk Technician Level 1 — **SDT1**
37 hrs per week, salary starting from £15,085 per annum

Learning Support Independent Living & Leisure Skills — **08/82**
18.5 hours per week, 38 weeks term time,
salary starting from £16,914 pro rata per annum

Learning Support Basic Skills & ESOL — **08/143**
37 hours per week, 38 weeks term time, salary starting from £16,914 pro rata per annum

Registry Assistant — **07/73**
18.5 hrs per week, salary starting from £15,085 pro rata per annum

Admissions Assistant — **AA1**
18.5 hrs per week, salary starting from £15,085 pro rata per annum

Online Exams Assistant — **06/37**
18.5 hrs per week, 38 weeks per year term time.
Salary starting from £15,085 pro rata per annum

Catering Assistant — **04/145**
25 hrs per week, 36 weeks term time.
Salary £12,351 pro rata per annum

Cleaning Coordinator (Day & Night Shift Pattern) — **CLC1**
37 hrs per week, salary starting from £16,914 per annum

Assistant Cleaning Coordinator (Nights) — **ACC1**
37 hrs per week, salary starting from £15,085 per annum

Supply Trainer Demonstrator Beauty and Holistic Therapies — **S/TD/BHT**
Various hours available, salary starting from £18,963 pro rata per annum

For an application pack please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.

The closing date for the above posts is Monday 27th October 2008 at 12 noon

Staff benefits include:

- Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme
- Sports Hall and Gym
- Proximity to Mainbus / Train Stations
- Generous Holiday Allowance
- Close to City Centre
- Staff Discount Scheme

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TERMS AND CONDITIONS

KOS MEDIA (PUBLISHING) LTD TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. Advertisements will be accepted only on the express condition that the advertiser warrants that the advertisement does not in any way contravene any existing legislation and in particular the Trade and Description Act 1968 and the Consumer Credit Act 1974.
2. It is the responsibility of all advertisers to ensure that all advertising meets all forms of government legislation and KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd (the "media owner") takes no responsibility for liability in errors and omissions to the content of our media.
3. All rates quoted are subject to VAT at the rate currently in force at the time the advertisement appears.
4. All rates within the annual advertising agreement will be rate protected for 12 months from the first date of publication under the signed agreement.
5. Any unsuitable material posted on any website belonging to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd by the advertiser or any associated third party will be removed or refused. All passwords and security supplied to the advertiser by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd in relation to the use of the posting of material via the media owner's online administration tool will be the responsibility of the advertiser. The advertiser indemnifies KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd against any damages as a result of misuse of these privileges by either the advertiser or any third party given password privileges by the advertiser.
6. KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd reserves the right to change passwords intermittently to ensure the overall and ongoing security of its websites within the public domain.
7. Copyright and licenses for voice-over/music/photography or film for advertising promotions or otherwise within the various forms of media in print, online and moving film owned by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must have been sought, verified or paid for by the advertiser where applicable. Approval or permissions must have been given by any potential beneficial owner voice-over or music. The advertiser must be able to verify any statements or claims (promotional or otherwise) in relation to their products/services promoted within any of the media offerings belonging to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd.
8. Where shrinkage of an advertisement occurs for whatever reason, the advertisement will be charged to the nearest full centimetre where it relates to the media owner's printed publications. This will NOT apply to full-page advertisements, which remain full pages even after shrinkage.
9. KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd reserves the right to omit or refuse any advertisement/commercial/web content without notice or explanation. In these terms the word "advertiser" shall be construed to include any person or organisation placing an advertisement on behalf of another.
10. A guarantee of insertion cannot be given and the media owners shall not be liable for any loss or damage caused by any error inaccuracy within your marketing content. In no case shall the total liability of the media owner for any error or omission exceed the price charged by the media owners for that advertising.
11. No liability is accepted for any loss or damage alleged to have arisen through delay in forwarding replies to Box numbers, however caused, nor for the loss or damage to any artwork supplied.
12. Claims for any error or inaccuracy in your media messages with KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must be made in writing to the accounts department within 10 days of publishing
13. KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd accepts no responsibility for any errors or omissions made on their websites by the advertiser.
14. KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd has the right to cancel the advertiser's annual membership without notice should the advertiser deliberately publish out of date material or content on any of the media owner's online digital platforms. KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd will seek to recover, in full, all outstanding invoices in relation to the signed annual membership as a result of the advertiser's negligence in this regard and reserves the right to claim damages for any potential vexatious action via the advertiser.
15. Advertisers are requested to check their advertisements after the first insertion. The media owner will not be responsible for any errors on subsequent insertions, which have not been advised to them in writing.
16. A minimum of one month's notice must be given in writing for any cancellation of the signed annual advertiser's agreement. Upon cancellation, all discounts from KOS Media's standard effective media advertising rate card (July 2008-June 2009) will be recalculated and adjusted accordingly in line with KOS Media's standard media rate card (effective July 2008-June 2009) and will reflect the revised length of commitment denoted by the advertiser's written cancellation. Any surcharges, refunds or costs in relation to the production of the advertiser's TV commercial for the commitment set out within the advertiser's agreement will be met in full by the advertiser as per KOS Media's standard media advertising rate card (July 2008-June 2009). Discounts will be reapplied and any refunds or surcharges will be paid by either party within 30 days of the advertiser's written cancellation. Any other advertising placed must give a minimum of seven days' written notice and any discounts given for series bookings will be forfeited by the advertiser upon cancellation.
17. Seasonal contracts, Your Professional classified advertisements or any uplift advertising within the annual contract with the advertiser will be invoiced in full - at rate card - on receipt of any written cancellation of this contract within the 12-months.
18. All uplift advertisements must be booked in at least three months in advance of publication and will be subject to availability. All dates booked will be on a first-come, first-served basis.
19. The advertiser must agree to the date and time of filming of any online TV advertising commercial supplied by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd within the advertiser's agreement, (Platinum, Gold, Silver standard of commercial). Should, for any reason, the advertiser not be available at the agreed time without giving sufficient notice (at least 48 hours), KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd reserves the right to charge for any further TV production at its standard published hourly rate should the advertiser still wish to use KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd's production services to complete its TV commercial or photographic imagery included in the advertiser's agreement. The advertiser will approve and accept that there are only two choices of voice-over and music offered by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd. Should an advertiser wish to use other voice-overs or non-copyright free music it is the responsibility of the advertiser to pay the PRS rights should they be required to do so. Any changes to or failure to approve the TV production by the deadlines agreed between both parties will result in KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd being given permission by the advertiser to replace the TV commercial with pictures or stills from a choice of photography supplied by the media owner until the advertiser can supply a TV commercial produced at their own cost and risk outside of this agreement. The advertiser also accepts and agrees that this action would not reduce the value or cost of their membership. Any cost of changes required to the TV commercial throughout the advertiser's agreement will be borne by the advertiser outside of this agreement.
20. Each advertiser accepts that their ranking and position within KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd's search engine will be equal to those within their category (Platinum, Gold, Silver, Bronze, etc) other than they will be ranked based on the search engine criteria of optimisation within their level (Platinum, Gold, Silver or Bronze).
21. Any delivery claims made by the advertiser or discount vouchers published within the print or online media of KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd and any action as a result of the public or otherwise is the sole responsibility of the advertiser. Any claims resulting from this via KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must be met by the advertiser.
22. a. All credit accounts due for payment shall be notified to the Advertiser by the 30th day following the date of the invoice, time to be of the essence. All sums due to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd or RBS Factoring shall be paid in full, and the Advertiser shall have no right of set off in any circumstances.
b. In the event that payment is not received by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd or RBS Factoring by the due date, the media owner shall be entitled to suspend all further advertising until payment is received and/or repudiate the contract and make any surcharges for breaking the contract.
c. In the event that payment is not received by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd by the due date, the media owner reserves the right to charge interest on all overdue balances calculated on a daily basis at the rate of two per cent above the minimum lending rate of National Westminster Bank Plc from time to time in force.
d. Not withstanding anything in these terms and conditions or implied to the contrary, in the event of the Advertiser ceasing to use the services of KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd (for whatever reason), the whole amount of monies due from the Advertiser to the date of cessation shall fall due for immediate payment.
e. The Advertiser will be liable for all costs incurred by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd in the recovery of debts not paid by the due date.
f. Payment may be made by cheque, credit transfer, direct debit, cash and any major credit card.
23. Any discount which KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd may have agreed with the Advertiser shall be forfeited in the event of failure by the Advertiser to complete the contract or to meet the above credit terms.
24. Advertising Agency commission will be allowed to those advertisers recognised by the Newspaper Society, but shall not exceed ten per cent and will be subject to the terms of that recognition. This commission will not be allowed if the Advertising Agency fails to meet the terms.
25. All private advertisements and certain categories as laid down by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must be prepaid.
26. The Advertiser agrees to indemnify KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd in respect of all costs, damages or other charges falling upon the media owners or any of the companies within the KOS Media Group as the result of legal action or threatened legal action or threatened legal arising from the publication of any advertisement or advertising promotion.
27. An order for an advertisement shall amount to acceptance of these terms and conditions, and any condition placed on an order by an Advertiser shall be null and void in so far as it conflicts with them.
28. Copyright in advertisements produced wholly or partially by the media owners belong to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd. Advertisers may not reproduce such advertisements without the media owner's written consent.

All terms and conditions stated above are in place to protect the advertiser, the media owner and the communities they serve within the public domain as well as the beneficial rights of individuals and organisations. KOS Media will endeavour to always act reasonably in applying its terms and conditions.

Effective from June 2008

Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR
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Email: info@kosmedia.co.uk

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Ashford Christ Church

A Church of England Specialist Maths and Computing College
Headteacher: Catherine Barber
Millbank Road, Kingsnorth, Ashford, Kent TN23 3HG

The Headteacher and Board of Governors are seeking to recruit a passionate, hardworking and dedicated

FAMILY LIAISON OFFICER (FLO)

Your role is to provide a link between home and school as part of our multi agency team in our School 'Changing Room'. You will provide support to the parents and carers of children at Ashford Christ Church.

But what will *you* be doing?

- Visiting parents and carers to discuss all kinds of issues that prevent students from engaging in their own learning and becoming successful at school.
- Organise meetings between teachers and parents/carers to enable a way forward to be found.
- Offering information on school life and events such as trips and meetings.
- Being the point of contact between School and Home, helping to shape our students into independent and successful learners.

It is important that every child is happy and gets the education they deserve. By working together with parents you can help them make progress.

We require a person to uphold our Christian values and work in our community. Some of these youngsters find disciplined school life challenging and need the help and care to enable them to succeed.

We are looking for someone who will offer "tough love" to struggling youngsters; someone who won't take 'no' for an answer, but will work a way forward to ensuring our students are in school focussed on their learning progress.

If you feel you have the right qualities and can make a significant difference to our students lives we would like to hear from you.

Please contact James Norton (Executive Support Officer) on 01233 623465 (extension 260) to request an application pack.

Deadline for application: 22nd October 2008. Interview date: On application.

Visit our website: www.ashfordchristchurch.com School info / Vacancies

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Kent County Council

Programme Managers

Starting salary £20,061 with progression through contribution related pay to £22,825 per annum

This is an exciting opportunity to be involved in the development of Playing for Success Kent (PfS Kent). We are in a position to extend the project and will, therefore, be looking to make appointments at the following locations.

Ebbsfleet, Maidstone, Margate and Canterbury

Supporting the Centre Manager to lead an innovative Study Support Centre (part of the DCSF PfS initiative) based at any of the locations above, you will work in partnership with the Clubs and play an influential role in the LA's development of out of school hours learning.

The Centres are based in a purpose built, fully equipped classroom and will offer an exciting and challenging environment where young people in Key Stages 2/3 participate in out of school hours learning.

You will be responsible for planning, managing and delivering day time, evening and weekend programmes from the Centre by working closely with the Centre Manager, local schools, the Club, partners and the wider community.

The ability to travel across a wide geographical area in a timely and flexible manner at various times of the day is essential.

Applications are welcomed from candidates with experience of working with a range of ages and experiences. You should also have experience of a range of educational contexts and ideally, of working with young people outside the classroom. An interest in sport would be useful.

These posts are subject to an Enhanced Disclosure Application to the Criminal Records Bureau.

If you would like the opportunity to discuss this post please contact:Christian Kelly (Playing for Success Kent Manager) on 07825 506584/christian.kelly@kent.gov.uk

To apply, visit www.kent.gov.uk/jobs Alternatively, please email recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk or call 0845 8247 904. Please quote reference number CFE/08/0509.

Closing date: Midday, 21 October 2008.

Interview dates: week beginning 3 November 2008.



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Kent County Council

Little Forest Children's Centre, Tunbridge Wells

Community Involvement Worker

Starting salary £20,061, with progression through contribution related pay to £22,825 per annum

37 hours per week

You will work as part of multi-agency team raising awareness in the community about the range of services on offer in the centre. For those families who do not use the Children's Centre, you will provide important information and access to services, ensuring that the views of children and their families and those of the wider community are sought and included in the development of services in the Children's Centre.

You will need to have strong interpersonal skills with a tactful and flexible approach. You will need to demonstrate a clear understanding of how to support the most vulnerable families to access services to improve the outcomes for children. The role will include the co-ordination of the recruitment, training and management of volunteers to support the running of the Children's Centre.

Ref: CFE/08/0497

Childrens Centre Cleaner

Starting salary £12,775, with progression through contribution related pay to £13,959 pro rata

15 hours per week

You will undertake the general cleaning of the establishment, including dusting, vacuuming, polishing, cleaning toilets, emptying bins etc to ensure that a clean and tidy environment is maintained.

You must been self-motivated and have a flexible approach to your work.

Ref: CFE/08/0498

Children's Centre Caretaker

Starting salary £13,959, with progression through contribution related pay to £15,826 pro rata

30 hours per week

Providing general maintenance of the building, facilities and associated grounds, you will ensure the safety, security and sound conditions of the building. Other duties include setting up rooms for use, maintaining the outside area and becoming a key holder.

You must be self-motivated and have a flexible approach to your work.

Ref: CFE/08/0500

Closing date for the above posts: Midday, 21 October 2008.

Policy Support Assistant

Starting salary £16,627, with progression through contribution related pay to £18,288 per annum

Maidstone

An interesting and varied vacancy has arisen within the busy Strategy, Policy and Performance Division.

Working within a confidential environment, you will have the ability to take comprehensive minutes of meetings and use your initiative to prioritise your workload to meet deadlines in a highly demanding environment.

You will have an excellent working knowledge of Word, Excel Outlook and PowerPoint, demonstrate a confident telephone manner and possess a high level of drafting skills. You will also have the confidence and ability to deal with a variety of multi-disciplinary professionals on a range of matters.

You will be a self-starter in order to provide effective personal and administrative support. **Previous applicants need not apply.**

Ref: CFE/08/0501

Closing date: Midday, 16 October 2008.

All of the above posts are subject to an Enhanced Disclosure Application to the Criminal Records Bureau.

To apply, visit www.kent.gov.uk/jobs Alternatively, please email recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk or call 0845 8247 904. Please quote the relevant reference number.



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100s of Local Jobs online

Accountancy

Bookkeeping/ Accounts/Clerk

Kent
Salary: TBA
Qualification, verbal/written comm skills, extremely organised. Legal background is helpful.
To apply/more information:
Raymond World Inc
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email parker.lural@gmail.com
Administration, Secretarial, PA

Administrative Assistant - College Redevelopment

Canterbury
Salary: salary starting from £16,364 per annum
Closing Date: 13.10.08
37 hrs per week,
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/120
Tel: 01227 811282
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

HR Advisor

Canterbury
Salary: salary starting from £18,375 per annum
Closing Date: 13.10.08
37 hrs per week,
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/119
Tel: 01227 811282
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Part Time Administrative Assistant

Medway
Salary: Salary pro rata to £17,169 – £19,263 per annum
Closing Date: 5:00 pm on 21 October 2008
The School of Science employs around 90 staff and deals with about 2800 students. It runs undergraduate and post graduate degrees in a wide range of science subjects including biomedical, environmental, pharmaceutical and sports sciences. You will work as part of a team liaising with School and University staff to improve student attendance. This involves the monitoring of attendance, the adherence to learning contracts and general compliance with University systems and regulations designed to support students. Hours of work 21 per week. To obtain further particulars and an application form visit our website www.gre.ac.uk, email us or write to the Personnel Office, University of Greenwich, Avery Hill Road, London, SE9 2UG quoting the job reference.
To apply/more information:
University of Greenwich
Quoting Job Ref: 01087/K3
Email jobs@gre.ac.uk

Part-Time Personal Assistant/ Administrator

Medway
Salary: Pro rata to £19,841 - £22,332 per annum
Closing Date: 5:00 pm on 21 October 2008
In this post you will liaise closely with the other part time Personal Assistant/Administrator to provide administrative support to the Head of School and other staff within the School of Engineering. You will perform the whole range of secretarial and clerical duties including taking minutes for meetings. We are looking for someone with Office Studies/Administration at NVQ 3 or equivalent relevant experience. You must have initiative but be able to work within a strong team ethos. You will have some tight deadlines and need to be well organised. You will be working with a wide range of people so excellent interpersonal skills are vital. Hours of work 17.5 per week. To obtain further particulars and an application form visit our website www.gre.ac.uk, email: jobs@gre.ac.uk or write to the Personnel Office, University of Greenwich, Avery Hill Road, London, SE9 2UG quoting the job reference.
To apply/more information:
University of Greenwich
Quoting Job Ref: 01086/K3
Email jobs@gre.ac.uk

Secretary

Kent
Salary:TBA
Qualification, verbal/written comm skills, extremely organised. Legal background is helpful.
To apply/more information:
Raymond World Inc
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email parker.lural@gmail.com

Service Desk Technician Level 2

Canterbury
Salary: salary starting from £16,364 per annum
Closing Date: 13.10.08
37 hrs per week.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: SDT2
Tel: 01227 811282
Email
applications@jobforkent.co.uk

SERVICE SUPPORT DESK OPERATORS

Chatham
Salary: tba
Closing Date: 20 October 2008
If you enjoy a challenging role please telephone 01634 847 043 or send your full CV along with a covering letter to HRBDSMedway@babcock.co.uk, quoting the job title and reference number. Alternatively, please send applications to Anita Owen, HR Manager, Babcock Defence Services, Collingwood Triangle, Khyber Road, Chatham, Kent, ME4 4TS.
To apply/more information:
Babcock Defence Services,
Quoting Job Ref: RSME 23C
Tel: 01634 847 043
Email
HRBDSMedway@babcock.co.uk,

Catering, Hospitality

Catering Assistants (Part Time)

Tunbridge Wells
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: Monday 3rd November 2008
We require catering assistants to work during the week and at weekends.The shifts would be 8:00am - 2:00pm. The purpose of the Catering Assistants role is to assist the cook in the preparation of a healthy diet for the residents within the Home. The successful applicants will enjoy working in a kitchen environment and be able to demonstrate the ability to work under pressure. Previous experience of working in a kitchen environment would be desirable. To apply for any of the above roles please request an application pack from David Wicksteed, Greensleeves Homes Trust, Unit 2 Regent Terrace, Rita Road, LONDON, SW8 1AW or email us.
To apply/more information:
David Wicksteed
Greensleeves Homes Trust
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 020 7793 1122
Email david.wicksteed@greensleeves.org.uk

Cook

Broadstairs
Salary: £9,228 to £10,009
Closing Date: 12 noon on Friday 17th October 2008
Bradstow is a fascinating and different residential school for children between the ages of 5 & 19, set in 13 acres of parkland just a few hundred metres from the sandy beaches of Broadstairs. We seek to meet the needs of children with autism, severe learning difficulties and challenging behaviour and have achieved national recognition for our developments in Communication and Behaviour Management. This role is to provide meals for the staff and pupils of Bradstow School for 26 hours per week, Mon-Thurs 12.30 pm to 5.30 pm and Sun 8 am to 2 pm. For all posts we look for candidates who are mature, practical, flexible and responsible with a patient and caring attitude to deal sensitively with vulnerable children. Please note that CVs will not be considered. For an application pack please call 01843 608727 or email personnel@bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk Applications should be received no later than 12 noon, Friday 17th October 2008. All appointments are subject to an enhanced discolsure CRB check.
To apply/more information:
Personnel
Bradstow School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01843 608727
Email personnel@
bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk

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JobsforKent.co.uk
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01303 817040

Evening Cooks and Weekend Cooks (Part time)

Tunbridge Wells
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: Monday 3rd November 2008
We require Cooks to work in the evening or on a Sunday.The Sunday shift would be 8:00am - 2:00pm, whilst evening shifts will be 3:00pm - 7:00pm.The purpose of the Cooks role is to prepare and serve nutritionally balanced and attractively presented food to residents. Cooks will also be required to maintain hygiene standards, and supervise staff.The successful applicants will be able to demonstrate a genuine desire to work with food and will have had previous experience of working in a food preparation role in a similar environment. To apply please request an application pack from Greensleeves Homes Trust, Unit 2 Regent Terrace, Rita Road, LONDON, SW8 1AW or email us.
To apply/more information:
David Wicksteed
Greensleeves Homes Trust
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 020 7793 1122
Email david.wicksteed@
greensleeves.org.uk

Kitchen Staff

Tunbridge Wells
Salary: (£5.75 - 6.90 per hour)
Closing Date: Monday 3rd November 2008
To apply please request an application pack from David Wicksteed, Greensleeves Homes Trust, Unit 2 Regent Terrace, Rita Road, LONDON, SW8 1AW or email us.
To apply/more information:
David Wicksteed
Greensleeves Homes Trust
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 020 7793 1122
Email david.wicksteed@
greensleeves.org.uk

Child Care

Children's Palliative Care Assistants

Sittingbourne
Salary: tba
Closing Date: 17th October, 2008
Demelza Hospice Care for Children provides specialist care and support to children with life limiting conditions and their families. Posts are based at our hospice in Sittingbourne, Kent. Are You? • Qualified at NVQ level II as a minimum in a relevant healthcare subject? • Able to demonstrate the ability and willingness to increase your skills and work towards NVQ level III and our own in-house competencies? • Experienced in working either in palliative care, or with children with complex medical or psychosocial or behavioral or educational needs? • Able to contribute to an excellent team in a highly specialized environment? • Able to value the benefits of quality time spent with the whole family providing holistic care? • Able to commit to an 8 week rota with regular rotation onto night duty and some weekends? Full and part time hours available but all shifts must be undertaken. As an Investors In People employer we know how important You are and can offer - • Structured on going education, support and professional development. • Competitive salary levels, pension package (including NHS pension if already contributing), pay enhancements for weekends, nights and weekend working as part of our shift system. • Good annual leave entitlement and an excellent working environment.
To apply/more information:
Demelza House
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01795 845295
Email info@demelza.org.uk

Childrens Centre Cleaner

Tunbridge Wells
Salary: Starting salary £12,775
Closing Date: 16 October 2008
15 hours per week You will undertake the general cleaning of the establishment, including dusting, vacuuming, polishing, cleaning toilets, emptying bins etc to ensure that a clean and tidy environment is maintained. You must be self-motivated and have a flexible approach to your work.
To apply/more information:
Kent County Council
Quoting Job Ref: CFE/08/0498
Tel: 0845 8247 904
Email
recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk

Houseparent

Broadstairs
Salary: £15,217- £17,233, 33 hours per week - Term time only
Closing Date: 12 noon, Friday 12th October 2008
Bradstow is a fascinating and different residential school for children between the ages of 5 & 19, set in 13 acres of parkland just a few hundred metres from the sandy beaches of Broadstairs. We seek to meet the needs of children with autism, severe learning difficulties and challenging behaviour and have achieved national recognition for our developments in Communication and Behaviour Management. Working as part of the childcare team the successful candidate will be responsible for the care of the children out of school hours. This vacancy is for 33 hours per week, term time only. Please call, during normal office hours, or email personnel@bradstow.wandsworth.sch for an application form and information pack. CV's will not be considered. Completed application forms must be returned by 12 noon on Friday 17th October 2008.
To apply/more information:
Personnel
Bradstow School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01843 862123
Email personnel@
bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk

Individual Support Workers (Childcare)

Broadstairs
Salary: £10,743 plus 10% antisocial hours allowance
Closing Date: 12 noon on Friday 17th October 2008
Bradstow is a fascinating and unique residential school for children between the ages of 5 & 19, set in 13 acres of parkland just a few hundred metres from the sandy beaches of Broadstairs. We seek to meet the needs of children with autism and severe learning difficulties, and have achieved national recognition for our developments in Communication and Behaviour Management. 36.5 hours per week – Term time only Working as part of the childcare team, these roles involve providing care and support to students mornings, evenings and weekends. For all posts we are looking for candidates who are mature, practical, flexible and responsible with a patient and caring attitude to deal sensitively with vulnerable children. Please note that CV's will not be considered. All appointments are subject to a CRB check. All shortlisted applicants will be expected to visit the school before interview, and the selection process includes a basic literacy assessment. In addition to salary, the benefits package includes Benenden membership.
To apply/more information:
Personnel
Bradstow School
Quoting Job Ref: ISW
Tel: 01843 608727
Email personnel@
bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk

Programme Managers

Kent
Salary: £20,061 progressing to £22,825
Closing Date: Midday, 21 October 2008
This is an exciting opportunity to be involved in the development of Playing for Success Kent (PfS Kent). We are in a position to extend the project and will, therefore, be looking to make appointments at the following locations. Ebbsfleet, Maidstone, Margate and Canterbury Supporting the Centre Manager to lead an innovative Study Support Centre (part of the DCSF PfS initiative) based at any of the locations above, you will work in partnership with the Clubs and play an influential role in the LA's development of out of school hours learning. The Centres are based in a purpose built, fully equipped classroom and will offer an exciting and challenging environment where young people in Key Stages 2/3 participate in out of school hours learning. You will be responsible for planning, managing and delivering day time, evening and weekend programmes from the Centre by working closely with the Centre Manager, local schools, the Club, partners and the wider community. The ability to travel across a wide geographical area in a timely and flexible manner at various times of the day is essential. Applications are welcomed from candidates with experience of working with a range of ages and experiences. You should also have experience of a range of educational contexts and ideally, of working with young people outside the classroom. An interest in sport would be useful. These posts are subject to an Enhanced Disclosure Application to the Criminal Records Bureau. To apply, visit www.kent.gov.uk/jobs
To apply/more information:
Christian Kelly
Kent County Council
Quoting Job Ref: CFE/08/0509
Tel: 0845 8247 904
Email
recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk

WEEKEND TEAM SUPPORT WORKERS (CHILDCARE)

Broadstairs
Salary: £4,880
Closing Date: 12 noon, Friday 17th October 2008
Bradstow is a fascinating and unique residential school for children between the ages of 5 & 19, set in 13 acres of parkland just a few hundred metres from the sandy beaches of Broadstairs. We seek to meet the needs of children with autism and severe learning difficulties, and have achieved national recognition for our developments in Communication and Behaviour Management. 15 hours per week, weekends- Term time only Working as part of the childcare team, these roles involve providing care and support to students mornings, evenings and weekends. For all posts we are looking for candidates who are mature, practical, flexible and responsible with a patient and caring attitude to deal sensitively with vulnerable children. Please note that CV's will not be considered. All appointments are subject to a CRB check. All shortlisted applicants will be expected to visit the school before interview, and the selection process includes a basic literacy assessment. In addition to salary, the benefits package includes Benenden membership.
To apply/more information:
Personnel
Bradstow School
Quoting Job Ref: TSW 15
Tel: 01843 608727
Email personnel@
bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk

Construction, Architecture, Surveyors

MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN

Kent
Salary: tba
Closing Date: 24th October 08
Required. Part time - mainly early mornings. Applicant to have had previous experience of maintaining a building and preferably swimming pools. Applicant must be able to start late November. To apply please email CV and covering letterto: Ops.Maidstone@davidlloyd.co.uk
To apply/more information:
David Lloyd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email Ops.Maidstone@
davidlloyd.co.uk

Child Care

Children's Centre Caretaker

Tunbridge Wells
Salary: Starting salary £13,959
Closing Date: 21 October 2008
30 hours per week Providing general maintenance of the building, facilities and associated grounds, you will ensure the safety, security and sound conditions of the building. Other duties include setting up rooms for use, maintaining the outside area and becoming a key holder. You must be self-motivated and have a flexible approach to your work.
To apply/more information:
Kent County Council
Quoting Job Ref: CFE/08/0500
Tel: 0845 8247 904
Email
recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk

Domestic

CLEANER

Canterbury
Salary: £6.10ph
Required for local community centre in Canterbury. 10 hours per week/£6.10 per hour. Weekdays, flexible hours.
To apply/more information:
Northgate Ward Development Group
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 785293
Email
northgateward@btconnect.com

Domestic Assistants - Evenings 15 hours per week, Term Time Only

Broadstairs
Salary: Salary: £3,996
Closing Date: 12 noon, Friday 17th October 2008
15 hours per week, Term Time Only. Mon to Fri 4pm to 7pm. To undertake general cleaning duties and maintain an acceptable standard of cleanliness and hygiene at Bradstow. For all posts we look for candidates who are mature, practical, flexible and responsible with a patient and caring attitude to deal sensitively with vulnerable children. For an application form and information pack please call 01843 608727 (24 hour recruitment answer machine), or email personnel@bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk.. Please note that CV's will not be considered.
To apply/more information:
Bradstow School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01843 608727
Email personnel@
bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk

HOUSEKEEPER

Tunbridge Wells
Salary: £7.00 per hour
Closing Date: 17/10/08
Excellent Benefits Package Enthusiastic Person with an eye for detail to lead our team of dedicated Domestic Staff to maintain our beautiful care home to a very high standard. Mon to Fri - 6 hrs a day.
To apply/more information:
Helen
High Broom Residential Home
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01892 654027
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

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To advertise in this section or online
01303 817040

Catering Assistant

Canterbury
Salary: Salary £11,801 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: 13.10.08
25 hrs per week, 36 weeks term time.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/141
Tel: 01227 811282
Email
applications@jobforkent.co.uk

Curriculum Support Assistant within Public Services and Security

Canterbury
Salary: Salary starting from £18,375 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: 13.10.08
18.5 hrs per week, 40 weeks term time.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/139
Tel: 01227 811282
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Education, Teacher, School

Kent County Council
To learn about teaching careers in Kent, visit
www.kent-teach.com

DANCE TEACHERS

Ashford
Salary: TBA
to teach for an hour a day, from one to five days per week. We run fun freestyle dance classes and are looking for people who are passionate about dance and have had some experience working with young people.
To apply/more information:
Future Dance
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 07896198442
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Full-time/Part-time Teacher of: PSYCHOLOGY

Chatham
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 15th October 2008
If your dream job is to teach, then Fort Pitt Grammar School in Chatham is the school for you! You won't find a school with more hard-working, talented young students that like a challenge. The girls at Fort Pitt are always willing to learn new things. So if you want to teach some of the most intelligent minds in Kent; come to Fort Pitt. (Rebecca Y9). All offers of employment will be subject to successful references and an enhanced Criminal Records Bureau clearance. This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. For further information please contact Mrs J M Bell, Headteacher. Applications by letter and C.V including the names and addresses of two referees.
To apply/more information:
Mrs J M Bell
Fort Pitt Grammar
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email
lmaile@fortpitt.medway.sch.uk

Key Skills Lecturer

Ashford
Salary: TBA
To teach Key Skills Level 1 & 2 in Literacy and Numeracy to Post 16 Apprentices in our three training academies in Maidstone, Folkestone and Ramsgate. DTLLS and A Units desirable or alternative teaching qualification. 32 hours per week and must have own transport. CVs to Amanda Green Unit 12 Heron Business Centre, Henwood Industrial Est, Ashford, Kent TN24 8DH.
To apply/more information:
Amanda Green
Keith Graham Academy
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01233 664171
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Learning Support - Administration, Finance and Key Skills

Canterbury
Salary: salary starting from £16,364 pro rata per
Closing Date: 13.10.08
18.5 hrs per week, 38 weeks.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/93
Tel: 01227 811282
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Lecturer - Computer Games and Interactive Media

Canterbury
Salary: salary range £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: 13.10.08
18.5 hrs per week.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/54
Tel: 01227 811282
Email
applications@jobforkent.co.uk

Lecturer Key Skills - Catering and Hospitality

Canterbury
Salary: salary range £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: 13.10.08
18.5 hrs per week.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 06/149
Tel: 01227 811282
Email
applications@jobforkent.co.uk

Lecturer Mechanical Engineering

Canterbury
Salary: salary range £17,816 - £25,545 per annum
Closing Date: 13.10.08
37 hrs per week.

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To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 05/81
Tel: 01227 811282
Email
applications@jobforkent.co.uk

Lecturers
Chatham
Salary: circa. £36k
Closing Date: Friday, 17th October 2008
We will provide the trades and technical engineering training for over 8500 Royal Engineers each year and are recruiting a number of key posts to complement the teams already in place at the RSME. We are currently building our management structure and now need Degree Qualified Engineers in a number of disciplines to take up lecturing posts within the RSME Professional Engineering Wing. Teaching experience would be an advantage but we recognise that it is unlikely that this has been within your experience to date unless you are already in the education sector, so we will provide you with the skills and qualifications required. If the prospect of using your professional engineering skills and experience to develop the engineering capability of tomorrows military engineer, then we would like to hear from you. • Construction • Electrical • Civil Engineering • Project Management • Mechanical These are key appointments and candidates will need to demonstrate that they can communicate effectively and have a strong understanding of their engineering discipline. For an application form and job description please visit our website www.midkent.ac.uk For an informal discussion on these positions, please call: Ken Pullan on 07725128661.
To apply/more information:
Ken Pullan
Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01634 845402
Email rsme.recruitment@midkent.ac.uk

Pre 16 Tutor
Canterbury
Salary: salary range £17,816 - £25,545 per annum.
Closing Date: 13.10.08
37 hrs per week Fixed term post ending 31 August 2010.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 07/12
Tel: 01227 811282
Email
applications@jobforkent.co.uk

Qualified Teachers
Kent
Salary: TBA
LOOKING FOR WORK IN THESE AREAS? MAIDSTONE MEDWAY CANTERBURY DARTFORD GRAVESEND ASHFORD RUN BY TEACHERS FOR TEACHERS 0845 130 4586 www.link-education.co.uk Est 2000 Holders of DCSF Quality Mark 2002 - 2009.
To apply/more information:
Link Education
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Supply Lecturers
Canterbury
Salary: salary range £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: 13.10.08
required in the following areas: First Aid S/FA Drama S/DRAMA Catering & Hospitality S/C&H Public Services S/PS Early Years S/EY Health & Social Care S/HSC.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 811282
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Supply NVQ Assessors
Canterbury
Salary: £17,727 - £25,418 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: 13th October 2008
Various hours available
Cleaning S/ASS/CLE Security S/ASS/SEC Health & Social Care (CYP) S/ASS/HSC.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 811282
Email
applications@jobforkent.co.uk

Supply Pre 16 Learning Support S/Pre
Canterbury
Salary: £16,364 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: 13.10.08
Various hours available.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 16/LS
Tel: 01227 811282
Email
applications@jobforkent.co.uk

Teaching Assistants
Hythe
Salary: £7.23 - £8.20 per hour
Closing Date: Monday 20th October 2008
Foxwood is a day and residential weekly boarding school for children with severe learning difficulties, challenging behaviours and autism. Teaching Assistants required - November 2008: Hours of work: - 31 hours a week (8.45 a.m. - 3.45 p.m.) Mon–Friday (term time only). Rate of Pay: Kent Scheme 3 (£7.23 - £8.20 per hour) depending on experience and qualifications. Due to new pupil referrals, we currently have vacancies for 2 teaching assistants. Relative NVQ2 qualification or equivalent is desirable. The School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Interested applicants please telephone the school or email: office@foxwood.kent.sch.uk for an application form. Closing date for applications: Monday 20th October 2008 Interviews: Wednesday 22nd October Shortlisted candidates will be notified by phone.
To apply/more information:
Foxwood School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01303 261155
Email
office@foxwood.kent.sch.uk

Teaching Vacancies
Ramsgate
Salary: tba
Closing Date: 17th October 2008
Teaching Vacancies for January 2009 for English and English & Drama and Physical Education The Marlowe Academy offers students an innovative and exciting learning experience. We have outstanding purpose built facilities with the very latest ICT; in addition to laptops and PCs in classrooms, there are 200+ computers in learning bays outside teaching areas. The Academy boasts excellent sports facilities comprising of two multi function sports halls, international standard athletics track, football and rugby pitches, tennis courts and cricket square. These allow for every sport possible with excellent teaching staff to match. It is all very exciting! This is an amazing opportunity for talented and ambitious professionals to join the academy. The posts would suit energetic and student focused teachers. Please send a copy of your C.V. to the school or email jenniferspooner@marloweacademy.co.uk Enquiries or visits to the Academy are welcome. Please contact Jennifer Spooner on direct telephone no: 01843 598550 or email to address above. We look forward to hearing from you.
To apply/more information:
Jennifer Spooner
Marlowe Academy
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01843 598550
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Trainer Demonstrator Public Services
Canterbury
Salary: Salary starting from £18,375 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: 13.10.08
37 hrs per week, 38 weeks term time.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/140
Tel: 01227 811282
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Engineering, Manufacturing, Utilities

IN-STORE LEAD-TAKERS
Kent
Salary: TBA
required (full and part time hours available). Positions available in Ashford, Belvedere, Canterbury, Dartford, Greenwich, Gillingham, Sidcup, and Tunbridge Wells. Based in the country's No1 DIY multiple retail outlet, your role would be to generate quality enquiries for Canterbury Conservatories.
To apply/more information:
Trish Marsh
Cestrum Conservatory Systems
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 07872 376 137
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

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01303 817040

Research and Development Trainee
Ashford
Salary: TBA
ITL is a world leader in the Design and Manufacture of Medical and Scientific Instruments. There is an exciting opportunity for a young technically minded person to join an experienced multidisciplinary team of engineers, creating a blend of traditional and state of the art products. The ideal person should be a "team player" being dynamic innovative and self motivated. You will be required to show good problem solving skills as well as striving for sound design and have a keen interest in Engineering. Personal development and training will be provided within the workplace, this activity will be bolstered by structured academic enhancement.The details of this advancement will be designed to optimise the candidate's potential. Your long-term aim should be to become a competent multidisciplinary engineer. Please forward your CV to Vicki Newman, Integrated Technologies Ltd., Ellingham Way, Ashford, Kent TN23 6NF, or email: vn@itl.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Vicki Newman
Integrated Technologies Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email vn@itl.co.uk

Estate Agency, Property

Residential sales and lettings
Maidstone
Salary: tba
Staff Vacancies Maidstone Branch Do you have a good knowledge of residential sales and lettings? Looking for a new position?
To apply/more information:
Kay
Accommodate
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01622 766272
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Industrial, Warehouse, Factory

ARMOURER and ARMS STORE OPERATOR
Chatham
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: Monday 20 October 2008
If you enjoy a challenging role please telephone 01634 847 043 or send your full CV along with a covering letter to HRBDSMedway@babcock.co.uk, quoting the job title and reference number. Alternatively, please send applications to Anita Owen, HR Manager, Babcock Defence Services, Collingwood Triangle, Khyber Road, Chatham, Kent, ME4 4TS.
To apply/more information:
Anita Owen
Babcock Defence Services
Quoting Job Ref: RSME 25C
Tel: 01634 847 043
Email
HRBDSMedway@babcock.co.uk,

MAINTENANCE ASSISTANT
Ashford
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: Monday 27th October
Successful Ashford Company requires a practical and mechanically minded individual to join our Maintenance team. The role involves both daily maintenance of existing machinery plus equipment and work on new projects and developments. The successful candidate will be able to work on their own and within a team which has a "can do" attitude. An interest or some knowledge of machines and mechanics will be an advantage. Good physical fitness and agility are also required. Induction training will be given. Working hours are usually 5 days a week Mon-Fri 7.30 to 17.00. In addition there can be some Saturday morning work. We offer a very varied working day, good team spirit and plenty of fresh air, as well as good rates of pay, Stakeholder Pension Scheme and rewards for good performance. Applications in writing please, in letter, email (jobs@palmstead.co.uk) or ask for an application form from the office or download one from our web site. For an informal talk speak to Mark Chapman (01233 813340). www.palmstead.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Mark Chapman
Palmstead Nurseries Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01233 813340
Email jobs@palmstead.co.uk

STORESPERSON (AMMUNITION)
Chatham
Salary: tba
Closing Date: Monday 20 October 2008
If you enjoy a challenging role please telephone 01634 847 043 or send your full CV along with a covering letter to HRBDSMedway@babcock.co.uk, quoting the job title and reference number. Alternatively, please send applications to Anita Owen, HR Manager, Babcock Defence Services, Collingwood Triangle, Khyber Road, Chatham, Kent, ME4 4TS.
To apply/more information:
Anita Owen
Babcock Defence Services
Quoting Job Ref: REF: RSME 15C
Tel: 01634 847 043
Email
HRBDSMedway@babcock.co.uk,

Network Application Technician (Advanced)
Canterbury
Salary: salary starting from £20,775 per annum
Closing Date: 13.10.08
37 hrs per week.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: ATA
Tel: 01227 811282
Email
applications@jobforkent.co.uk

Web Systems Developer
Canterbury
Salary: salary starting from £18,375 per annum
Closing Date: 13.10.08
37 hrs per week.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/142
Tel: 01227 811282
Email
applications@jobforkent.co.uk

Legal Secretary
Sittingbourne
Salary: TBA
Required to cover maternity leave. Experience of litigation or wills and probate an advantage. CV to J.H. Steadman, Christopher Harris & Co Solicitors 20 West Street, Sittingbourne ME10 1AB.
To apply/more information:
J H Steadman
Christopher Harris & Company
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email
jans@christopherharris.org.uk

Leisure, Tourism, Travel

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT EXECUTIVE
Hythe
Salary: Negotiable
The GSE Group have exciting plans, for restoring and updating the elegant four-star Hythe Imperial Hotel, which boasts Spa, Golf and Conference facilities. We require an enthusiastic individual with a proven track record within the industry, to sell and develop the Imperial's potential as a leading conference & events venue, leisure break and destination hotel. The successful candidate will be sales orientated, highly motivated and committed to success. Excellent package offered, including company car and performance related bonus scheme. Please submit your CV to The General Manager, Hythe Imperial Hotel, Princes Parade, Hythe, Kent CT21 6AE or H6862-GM@accor.com.
To apply/more information:
Sue Barlow
GSE Group
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01233 501301
Email sue.barlow@gse-group.com

Meat Preparation Operative
Canterbury
Salary: £16k - £18k depending on experience
Howletts Wild Animal are looking for an honest and reliable individual to prepare meat for the wild animals of the park in our new purpose built meat yard. Based at Howletts Park your duties will include: daily butchering of domestic livestock for animal consumption, transporting meat from Howletts to Port Lympne Wild Animal Park, 30 minutes away, incineration of carcass residue in a new commercial incinerator maintaining hygiene standards of the meat yard, maintain necessary paperwork to meet current D.E.F.R.A legislation, visit farms to build up supplies, handle money. You will be required, on occasion to assist the animal keeping staff in their general duties. Candidates must have a full valid driving licence, be physically fit as the majority of the work is physically demanding. Firearms licence holder is preferred as you will be required to euthanize farm stock. For this reason you will be required to obtain a Criminal Records Bureau check prior to starting work Ideally you should have previous experience gained in a slaughter house or butchers but training will be provided if necessary. Working 40 hours a week, five days out of seven, 8.00am - 5.00pm, you will be required to work some weekends and bank holidays. To apply please send a CV and covering letter (stating the position applied for) to: Animal Director, Howletts Wild Animal Park, Bekesborne Lane, Nr Canterbury, Kent. CT4 5EL.
To apply/more information:
Neil Spooner
Howletts Wild Animal Park
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email personnel@howletts.net

Management, Senior Positions

Case Manager
Kent
Salary: Band 6 £24,103 to £32,653 pa
Closing Date: 16/10/08
Hours: 37.5. For further information and to apply, please visit www.eastcoastkentpct.nhs.uk
To apply/more information:
Eastern & Coastal PCT
Quoting Job Ref: 767-EIC520
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

NIGHT TEAM LEADER
Tunbridge Wells
Salary: £7.54 per hour
Closing Date: 17/10/08
8.45pm to 7.15am £7.54 per hour Weekend Enhancement Excellent Benefits Package Have you achieved an NVQ 3 and are you able to take responsibility for the care of our resident's, working within a small of night staff? If so please call Helen on 01892 654027.
To apply/more information:
Helen
High Broom Residential Home
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01892 654027
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Production Manager
Ashford
Salary: TBA
A genuine hands-on leadership role, directly responsible for the day-to-day supervision of a production team, with a brief to ensure performance levels meet and exceed output targets across the key areas of safety, quality and productivity. With a proven track record in a similar production or first-line management position, the successful candidate must have a solid production background gained in a food manufacturing environment, coupled with a results-driven approach and strong leadership skills. This position requires a Sunday-Thursday work pattern. Please apply in writing, enclosing your CV, to: The Personnel Manager, Anchor Catering Ltd., Unit 2 Wotton Trading Estate, Wotton Road, Ashford, Kent TN23 6LL.
To apply/more information:
Personnel Manager
Anchor Catering
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01233 665533
Email
mail@anchorcatering.co.uk

Marketing, Advertising

Marketing Manager
Ashford
Salary: TBA
Temporary post to cover maternity leave. The renowned wild animal parks, Howletts and Port Lympne are one of the biggest attractions in Kent. We are looking for a marketing professional with solid and extensive marketing experience and a proven track record of producing results to provide maternity cover for our Marketing Manager. You will be positive, bright and articulate with excellent communication skills and man management skills with the drive and ambition to deliver results. Your main duty is to increase visitor numbers and to protect the integrity of the brand. You will be responsible for executing the marketing plan for both parks, events, weddings and corporate products, dealing with outside consultants, managing and developing the marketing team and the company website. Good budget control skills are essential as you will be responsible for a marketing budget of £400k. The ideal candidate will have a marketing background managing above and below the line campaigns and have experience in e-marketing. We are looking for applications from people who have the relevant skills and experience to make a positive impact to our organisation. Applications should include your CV and cover letter outlining your suitability and salary expectations. Please send applications to Human Resources Manager, Port Lympne Wild Animal Park, Nr Hythe, Kent CT21 4PD or e-mail us for more information and to gain an understanding of our company please visit out web site: www.totallywild.net before applying.
To apply/more information:
Helen Dallimore-Jones
Howletts Wild Animal Park
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email helendj@howletts.net

Motor Trade, Driver

DELIVERY DRIVERS
Ashford
Salary: £5.73-£5.85 per hour with bonus
Closing Date: 22nd October 2008
We are Kent's largest independent motor factor with 5 branches across the South East and over 20 years experience of supplying car parts to garages and workshops.We will shortly be opening a new branch in Ashford and have opportunities available for delivery drivers. If you have a full driving licence, are 25 years of age or over and are willing to work alternate Saturdays, please call Peta Budd on 0208 308 6812. Alternatively you can visit our website www.scmf.co.uk for an application form.
To apply/more information:
Peta Budd
SC Motor Factors Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 0208 308 6812.
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

100s more jobs online
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To advertise in this section or online
01303 817040

Driver
Ashford
Salary: TBA
Early morning delivery driver (up to 3 tonnes van) required to deliver in the South East and London area. Hours up 40 per week starting early morning with good rates of pay. Successful applicants must have a clean driving licence and be presentable and polite. Please apply in writing, enclosing your CV, to: The Personnel Manager, Anchor Catering Ltd., Unit 2 Wotton Trading Estate, Wotton Road, Ashford, Kent TN23 6LL.
To apply/more information:
Personnel Manager
Anchor Catering
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01233 665533
Email
mail@anchorcatering.co.uk

DRIVERS (PSV, LGV, HGV and ADR QUALIFIED)
Chatham
Salary: tba
Closing Date: Monday 20 October 2008
If you enjoy a challenging role please telephone 01634 847 043 or send your full CV along with a covering letter to HRBDSMedway@babcock.co.uk, quoting the job title and reference number. Alternatively, please send applications to Anita Owen, HR Manager, Babcock Defence Services.
To apply/more information:
Anita Owen
Babcock Defence Services
Quoting Job Ref: RSME 19-22C
Tel: 01634 847 043
Email
HRBDSMedway@babcock.co.uk,

PLANT OPERATORS (VEHICLE SERVICING)
Chatham
Salary: tba
Closing Date: 20 October 2008
If If you enjoy a challenging role please telephone 01634 847 043 or send your full CV along with a covering letter to HRBDSMedway@babcock.co.uk, quoting the job title and reference number. Alternatively, please send applications to Anita Owen, HR Manager, Babcock Defence Services, Collingwood Triangle, Khyber Road, Chatham, Kent, ME4 4TS.
To apply/more information:
Anita Owen,
Babcock Defence Services,
Quoting Job Ref: RSME 17C
Tel: 01634 847 043
Email
HRBDSMedway@babcock.co.uk

Care Assistant
Deal
Salary: TBA
Required for a Care Home in Tilmanstone, Deal. Full/Part time hours available. For further information please contact The Home Manager.
To apply/more information:
Mrs Elango
Old Vicarage Retirement Home
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01304 611241
Email p.elango@btinternet.com

CARE ASSISTANTS
Faversham
Salary: tba
required for night or day shifts. Working on a rota basis. Experience preferred but training will be given.between 10am - 4pm.
To apply/more information:
Carnalea Residential Home
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01795 532629
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

CARE ASSISTANTS
Tunbridge Wells
Salary: From £6.65 per hour
Closing Date: 17/10/08
PERMANENT BANK and MATERNITY COVER CARE ASSISTANTS To join our friendly team Shifts are 7-2 or 2-9, alternate weekends From £6.65 per hour Please call Helen on 01892 654027.
To apply/more information:
Helen
High Broom Residential Home
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01892 654027
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Care Staff
Tunbridge Wells
Salary: (£6.60 - 7.65 per hour)
Closing Date: Monday 3rd November 2008
To apply please request an application pack from Greensleeves Homes Trust, Unit 2 Regent Terrace, Rita Road, LONDON, SW8 1AW or email us.
To apply/more information:
David Wicksteed
Greensleeves Homes Trust
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 020 7793 1122
Email david.wicksteed@greensleeves.org.uk

Cleaner
Deal
Salary: TBA
Required for a Care Home in Tilmanstone, Deal. Full/Part time hours available. For further information please contact The Home Manager.

Is your CV up to date?
take advantage of a free online CV review
JobsforKent.co.uk

To apply/more information:
Mrs Elango
Old Vicarage Retirement Home
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01304 611241
Email p.elango@btinternet.com

Day Care Assistants (Full Time or Part Time)

Tunbridge Wells
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: Monday 3rd November 2008
We require care assistants to work throughout the week. The purpose of the care assistant role is to meet the personal care needs of residents and to help in the care of the residents' physical environment. Care assistants will also be expected help out in the general day to day running of the home.The successful applicants will need to demonstrate a genuine desire to meet the needs of residents in a way that preserves their dignity, and the ability to work to high standards. Previous experience of care and/or an NVQ level 2 qualification is desirable. To apply for any of the above roles please request an application pack from David Wicksteed, Greensleeves Homes Trust, Unit 2 Regent Terrace, Rita Road, LONDON, SW8 1AW or email us.
To apply/more information:
David Wicksteed
Greensleeves Homes Trust
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 020 7793 1122
Email david.wicksteed@greensleeves.org.uk

Health Promotion Practitioner Stop

Canterbury
Salary: Band 5: £20,225 - £26,123
Closing Date: 10 October 2008
Would you like to help people to stop smoking? Are you interested in improving peoples' health? If you are, then we may have the right job for you. You will join a lively and committed Stop Smoking Team which carries the responsibility for developing and delivering services, including individual one-to-one and group sessions. You will join the service at a time of expansion and challenge in order to contribute to the achievement of local and national stop smoking targets. Excellent communication skills and an understanding of motivational interviewing techniques and/or counselling skills are essential. Relevant work experience may include: general nursing, health visiting and midwifery, smoking cessation, counselling, addiction services or experience involving substantial interpersonal and communication skills. An understanding of the issues around stopping smoking will be an advantage but is not essential, as training will be given. Experience of working with minority groups will be an advantage. You will be expected to work flexibly and on your own initiative, within an agreed framework, as well as being part of a team. The post will involve extensive travel: travel expenses incurred in the course of your duties will be reimbursed. You should also have the flexibility to work at various venues across East Kent. (*) Employment in this post is subject to a satisfactory Enhanced Disclosure from the Criminal Records Bureau. Car owner/driver essential, subject to the provisions of the Disability Discrimination Act (1995) For further information and to apply, please visit www.eastcoastkentpct.nhs.uk
To apply/more information:
Helen Miller
Eastern & Coastal PCT
Quoting Job Ref: ASH 159
Tel: 01304 828742
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

HOUSEKEEPER

Tunbridge Wells
Salary: £7.00 per hour
Closing Date: 17/10/08
HOUSEKEEPER Mon to Fri - 6 hrs a day £7.00 per hour Excellent Benefits Package Accommodation available Enthusiastic Person with an eye for detail to lead our team of dedicated Domestic Staff to maintain our beautiful care home to a very high standard. Please call Helen on 01892 654027.THE ROYAL SURGICAL AID SOCIETY High Broom Residential Home Crowborough.
To apply/more information:
Helen
Age Care
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01892 654027
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Night Care Assistants (Part Time)

Tunbridge Wells
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: Monday 3rd November 2008
We require night care assistants to work throughout the week.The purpose of the night care assistant role is to provide wakeful night duty cover in the Home and to undertake certain domestic duties which can be performed during night hours.The successful applicants will need to demonstrate a genuine desire to meet the needs of the resident in a way that preserves their dignity, and the ability to work to high standards. Previous experience of care and/or an NVQ level 2 qualification is desirable, together with an understanding of the difficulties of night work. To apply for any of the above roles please request an application pack from Greensleeves Homes Trust, Unit 2 Regent Terrace, Rita Road, LONDON, SW8 1AW or email us.
To apply/more information:
David Wicksteed
Greensleeves Homes Trust
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 020 7793 1122
Email david.wicksteed@greensleeves.org.uk

NIGHT TEAM LEADER

Ashford
Salary: £7.54 per hour "New Position" NIGHT TEAM LEADER 8.45pm to 7.15am £7.54 per hour Weekend Enhancement Excellent Benefits Package, Accommodation Available Have you achieved an NVQ 3 or would you like the chance to train? If so please call Helen on 01892 654027.
To apply/more information:
Helen
Age Care
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01892 654027
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH NURSE

Chatham
Salary: tba
Closing Date: Monday 20 October 2008
If you enjoy a challenging role please telephone 01634 847 043 or send your full CV along with a covering letter to HRBDSMedway@babcock.co.uk, quoting the job title and reference number. Alternatively, please send applications to Anita Owen, HR Manager, Babcock Defence Services, Collingwood Triangle, Khyber Road, Chatham, Kent, ME4 4TS.
To apply/more information:
Anita Owen
Babcock Defence Services
Quoting Job Ref: REF: RSME 9C
Email HRBDSMedway@babcock.co.uk

Part time or full time Community Care Workers for Ashford and the Marsh

Ashford
Salary: TBC
Applicants must have their own vehicle. We offer flexible shifts, which include mornings, evenings and weekends. We provide full training, uniform, equipment, CRB check and weekly pay at good rates.
To apply/more information:
Country Folk Care
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01797 361889
Email countryfolkcare@hotmail.co.uk

Part-Time Care Assistants

Sittingbourne
Salary: TBA
required for a residential home for learning disabilities Shift work.
To apply/more information:
Sally
Country Care
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01795 886220
Email ellenscourt@btconnect.com

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PERMANENT, MATERNITY and BANK CARE ASSISTANTS

Tunbridge Wells
Salary: From £6.65 per hour
Closing Date: 17/10/08
PERMANENT, MATERNITY and BANK CARE ASSISTANTS To join our friendly team. Shifts are 7-2 or 2-9, alternate weekends From £6.65 per hour Enhancements for weekends and qualifications Accommodation available Please call Helen on 01892 654027 THE ROYAL SURGICAL AID SOCIETY High Broom Residential Home Crowborough, East Sussex.
To apply/more information:
Helen
Age Care
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01892 654027
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Relief Night Staff and a Cook

Sittingbourne
Salary: TBA
Also required are Relief Night Staff and a Cook Transport needed as no public transport available.
To apply/more information:
Sally
Country Care
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01795 886220
Email ellenscourt@btconnect.com

Senior Care Assistants (Full Time or Part Time)

Tunbridge Wells
Salary: TBA
We require senior care assistants to work throughout the week. The purpose of the senior care assistant role is to support the Manager and Management Team in all aspects of the Home's management and to teach, and lead by example, new and inexperienced staff members in all aspects of their work in the home. Senior Care Assistants are also required to provide on-call cover where necessary.The successful applicants must be at least NVQ 2 qualified and have experience of providing care in a similar capacity. NVQ 3 qualification and previous experience of supervising care staff is desirable. To apply for any of the above roles please request an application pack from David Wicksteed, Greensleeves Homes Trust, Unit 2 Regent Terrace, Rita Road, LONDON, SW8 1AW, (020 7793 1122).
To apply/more information:
David Wicksteed
Greensleeves Homes Trust
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: Monday 3rd November 2008
Email david.wicksteed@greensleeves.org.uk

Senior RSW - (Day Care Team Leader)

Sevenoaks
Salary: Basic pay £10.04 per hour and £12.55 per hour for weekends and bank holidays Could you take responsibility for the home during your shift? Can you manage staff? Are you able to provide care to residents and liaise with their families and visiting medical staff? 37 hour week on rota NVQ3/First Aid/Safe Handling of Medicines certificates desirable but various training is available. 6 wks leave, pension scheme, company sick pay after 6 mths, free parking on site. Some work clothing provided, meals on duty. Please ring Jay Drake on 01732 458762 or Rockdale House on 01732 454763 for a chat/application form. This post will be subject to an Enhanced CRB disclosure.
To apply/more information:
Jay Drake
Rockdale House
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01732 458762
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

SENIOR SUPPORT WORKER

Sheerness
Salary: TBA
35 hours a week. Please call Christine or June between 10am - 4pm on 01795 669824.
To apply/more information:
Christine or June
Alma Lodge
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01795 669824
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

SENIOR SUPPORT WORKERS

Gravesend
Salary: tba
SENIOR SUPPORT WORKERS with NVQ3 SUPPORT WORKER NIGHT WORKER Full training given. To apply please call for an application form 01233 733127 Larchwood Grove Residential Home for Adults with learning difficulties - Gravesend.
To apply/more information:
Copperfields
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01233 733127
Email larchwoodcourt@tiscali.co.uk

SENIOR SUPPORT WORKERS

Rochester
Salary: TBA
SENIOR SUPPORT WORKERS with NVQ3 SUPPORT WORKERS NIGHT WORKERS Full training given. To apply please call for an application form 01474 824122 Copperfields Retirement Home - Rochester.
To apply/more information:
Copperfields
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01474 824122
Email larchwoodcourt@tiscali.co.uk

Public Sector, Social Services

COMMUNITY DRUG WORKERS X 4 EAST/WEST KENT and MEDWAY

Medway
Salary: Salary £20,736 - £26,835 (SCP 25-33) - Pay Award Pending
Closing Date: 17th October 2008
37 hours per week Essential Car User Allowance up to £1056 Working closely with medical staff, you will provide assessment and keyworker support to service users accessing the substitute prescribing service. The aim of the role is to assist chaotic injecting drug users to stabilise their drug use and lifestyle. Significant experience of working with people with drug related problems and a genuine commitment to this client group are essential. You should have a professional qualification in a relevant discipline such as nursing, counselling or social work. There is scope to be involved in developing associated specialisms within the team. For application forms contact: KCA (UK), 44 East Street, Faversham, Kent ME13 8AT. Telephone 01795 590635, Fax 01795 539351, Email recruitment@kca.org.uk, www.kca.org.uk.
To apply/more information:
KCA (UK)
Quoting Job Ref: REF: 517
Tel: 01795 590635
Email recruitment@kca.org.uk

Community Involvement Worker

Tunbridge Wells
Salary: Starting salary £20,061
Closing Date: 16 October 2008
37 hours per week You will work as part of multi-agency team raising awareness in the community about the range of services on offer in the centre. For those families who do not use the Children's Centre, you will provide important information and access to services, ensuring that the views of children and their families and those of the wider community are sought and included in the development of services in the Children's Centre. You will need to have strong interpersonal skills with a tactful and flexible approach. You will need to demonstrate a clear understanding of how to support the most vulnerable families to access services to improve the outcomes for children. The role will include the coordination of the recruitment, training and management of volunteers to support the running of the Children's Centre.
To apply/more information:
Kent County Council
Quoting Job Ref: CFE/08/0497
Tel: 0845 8247 904
Email recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk

Counsellor

Dover
Salary: £20,736 - £26,067 (SCP 25 - 32) (pay award pending)
Closing Date: 24th October 2008
Operating in the drug & alcohol and mental health sectors, KCA (UK) provides a wide range of high quality and innovative specialist services for adults and young people. 37 hours per week. Working within the Counselling Functional Specialist Group, you will manage a client caseload under clinical supervision. You will also be required to complete counselling assessments and contribute towards the care planning process. You will need a qualification in counselling to diploma level and at least two years experience, preferably in the drug and alcohol field. BACP accreditation or working towards this would be an advantage. The flexibility to work additional hours and away from your service base when required would be an advantage For an application form contact: KCA (UK) Dan House, 44 East Street, Faversham, Kent ME13 8AT. Tel: 01795 590635, Fax: 01795 539351, Email recruitment@kca.org.uk, website www.kca.org.uk. Interview date: 5th November 2008 in Folkestone.
To apply/more information:
KCA (UK)
Quoting Job Ref: 518
Tel: 01795 590635
Email recruitment@kca.org.uk

Policy Support Assistant

Maidstone
Salary: Starting salary £16,627
Closing Date: 16 October 2008
Maidstone An interesting and varied vacancy has arisen within the busy Strategy, Policy and Performance Division. Working within a confidential environment, you will have the ability to take comprehensive minutes of meetings and use your initiative to prioritise your workload to meet deadlines in a highly demanding environment. You will have an excellent working knowledge of Word, Excel Outlook and PowerPoint, demonstrate a confident telephone manner and possess a high level of drafting skills. You will also have the confidence and ability to deal with a variety of multi-disciplinary professionals on a range of matters. You will be a self-starter in order to provide effective personal and administrative support. Previous applicants need not apply.
To apply/more information:
Kent County Council
Quoting Job Ref: CFE/08/0501
Tel: 0845 8247 904
Email recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk

Retail, Wholesale, Sales

Experienced Part Time Telesales

Ashford
Salary: £7.50 hr + commission + bonuses
Experienced Part time Telesales 9.30am - 1.30pm Mon-Fri (20hrs) £7.50 hr + commission + bonuses MUST HAVE EXPERIENCE Ashford based publisher Tel: (01233) 643574.
To apply/more information:
Plus Publishing Services
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

International Management Trainee

Canterbury
Salary: £30,000 OTE
Closing Date: 16th October 2008
International Management Trainees Do You Want An International Career? International Management Trainees Meltwater News is one of the fastest growing companies in Europe. Personifying the very essence of drive and ambition, we have seen the rapid growth of 38 offices in Scandinavia, South Africa, Australia, Singapore, United Kingdom and United States within the last 4 years. Encouraging a humble and positive working environment, we take great pride in developing people and their careers. We are looking for talented individuals to join our Canterbury office. With a strong emphasis on sales, you will experience personal and professional growth at a fast pace. If you are the right person, with the right attitude, you will be given the opportunity to flourish within our European, Asian, African or US Management Program. Does Sydney, Hong Kong or Miami sound appealing? Well pay attention; this is what we are looking for… The Industry: - Fast paced world of online media monitoring The Job: - Business to Business sales - Strategic thinking on individual client needs - Negotiating long term contracts with directors & executives - Developing your own customer portfolio The Preferred Skills & Qualifications: - University degree (any discipline) - Strong communication & relationship building skills - Exceptional interpersonal & analytical skills - Sales experience ideal (not essential) - Excellent level of proficiency in written and spoken English We Are Offering: - Fun, cosmopolitan & diverse work culture - Accelerated promotion program - International career opportunities - £30K OTE If you would like the challenge of working for a vibrant international company, then polish your CV and apply via: www.meltwater.com or send applications directly to the email address below:
To apply/more information:
John Box
Meltwater News
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 863665
Email recruitment.canterbury@meltwaternews.com

Sales Rep

Kent
Salary: tba
Qualification, verbal/written comm skills, extremely organised. Legal background is helpful.
To apply/more information:
Raymond World Inc
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email parker.lural@gmail.com

Supervisor, Santa's and Elves

Kent
Salary: TBA
wanted for Santa's Grotto near you! Apply on-line at jobs@greatgrottos.co.uk or send CV & photograph to GGL, PO Box 7, Waterlooville, PO7 7EF.
To apply/more information:
Elizabeth
Great Grotto
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: jobs@greatgrottos.co.uk
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Telesales/Order Processor

Ashford
Salary: TBA
Ideal candidate will be processing orders, answering sales calls, processing faxed and emailed orders, ringing existing account holders to request orders and must be computer literate, hard working and enthusiastic. This is a part time position and the successful candidate will be required to work from 10am to 2.30pm Monday to Friday. Please apply in writing, enclosing your CV, to: The Personnel Manager, Anchor Catering Ltd., Unit 2 Wotton Trading Estate, Wotton Road, Ashford, Kent TN23 6LL.
To apply/more information:
Personnel Manager
Anchor Catering
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01233 665533
Email mail@anchorcatering.co.uk

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01303 817040

Scientific & Pharmaceutical, Research

Technician (fixed term for 2 years)

Medway
Salary: £17,169 - £19,263 per annum
Closing Date: 5:00 pm on 21 October 2008
You will work in a large University teaching laboratory in the general areas of chemistry and pharmaceutical science. The majority of the work will involve preparation for laboratory classes and assistance with projects for both undergraduate and MSc students. You should be educated to at least A-level (or equivalent) and should possess good knowledge of working in a chemistry laboratory and be able to use appropriate equipment. Good IT skills are also required especially in the use of email, word processing and spreadsheets. You will be a team player and operate well under pressure. This post is fixed term for 2 years. We aim to be an equal opportunities employer and welcome applications from all sections of the community. To obtain further particulars and an application form visit our website www.gre.ac.uk, email us or write to the Personnel Office, University of Greenwich, Avery Hill Road, London, SE9 2UG quoting the job reference.
To apply/more information:
University of Greenwich
Quoting Job Ref: 01088/K3
Email jobs@gre.ac.uk

Transport, Logistics, Aviation

Class 1 Draw Bar Drivers

Kent
Salary: c£25,500
Our client in Purfleet is looking to recruit 2 X Draw Bar Drivers on a temporary to permanent basis. Duties will involve deliveries to superstores throughout the south east, approximately 6 drops per day. Manual handling may be required, as well as the use of a winch to offload goods. Previous draw bar experience preferred, although our client is prepared to offer training to applicants who display a good attitude and willingness to work. For insurance purposes, applicants must be 25 or over, have 2 years commerical experience on LGV C+E vehicles, and hold no more than 3 points for minor endorsements (no DRs or DDs) Hours of work are Monday to Friday, 0600 starts. O/T @ Time Monday to Friday, T+1/2 Saturday (6th day working).
To apply/more information:
Andy or Alex
The Best Connection Agency
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01622 664999
Email maidstone@thebestconnection.co.uk

Class 1 Drivers

Aylesford
Salary: £9.00 - £14.00/hr
You will be undertaking deliveries of frozen, chilled and ambient goods to supermarkets thoughout the South East, 1 -2 drops per day. Various shifts available - weekdays, weekends, earlies, lates Regular work avaiable for presentable and conscientious drivers. For insurance purposes, appplicants must be 25 or over, have 2 years commercial experience on LGV C+E vehicles, and no more than 6 points for minor endorsements (no DRs or DDs).
To apply/more information:
Alex or Andy
The Best Connection Agency
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01622 664999
Email maidstone@thebestconnection.co.uk

Multi Drop Van Drivers

Aylesford
Salary: £7.00/hr
Closing Date: 24th December 2008
Our client in Aylesford is looking for temporary Multi Drop Van Drivers to cover the 3 weeks in December up to Christmas. Undertaking 60 - 100 drops per day, applicants must have previous multi drop experience and be able to provide commercial references to validate this. Work will take place in either DA, TN or ME postcoded areas, therefore good local knowledge coupled with either Sat Nav or maps is essential. For insurance purposes, applicants must be 21 or over and have no more than 6 points for minor endorsements (no DRs or DDs) Hours of work are Monday to Friday, 0700 starts til finish.
To apply/more information:
Alex Harpur
The Best Connection Agency
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01622 664999
Email maidstone@thebestconnction.co.uk

Highways - District of Ashford

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(Martens Lane, High Halden)(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because a water main installation is proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Martens Lane, High Halden, north of Marten Farm, on 17 October 2008 for an estimated period of five days or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Plurenden Road, Church Hill, A28 Ashford Road, Standard Lane, Chequer Tree Lane and Martens Lane.

Highways - District of Canterbury

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(OLD DOVER ROAD, CANTERBURY) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because new gas supply works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Old Dover Road, Canterbury between the roundabout with Upper Bridge Street and the junction with Oaten Hill, on or after 27 October 2008, for an estimated period of five days or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Upper Bridge Street, St George's Place, Upper Chantry Lane and Oaten Hill.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(North Stream, Chislet) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because a water main installation is proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on North Stream, Chislet between Grays Farm and Little Grays on or after 13 October 2008, for an estimated period of two weeks or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via North Stream, Boyden Gate Hill, Highstead, Ford Hills, Heart in Hand Road, Sweechbridge Road, Thanet Way and Brook Lane.

Highways - District of Sevenoaks

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
SEVENOAKS RESURFACING (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 (5) THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Various roads as noted in schedule 1.

The Order will become effective on 27th October 2008, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months, the works are planned to last as noted in the attached schedule. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be as noted in the attached schedule.

The purpose of the Order is to facilitate the resurfacing of the carriageway.

Schedule 1

Road Name	Location	Duration	Alternative Route
Ashgrove Road, Sevenoaks	Weald Road to Ashgrove Road	5 days	Weald Road and Ashgrove Road
Troy Lane, Edenbridge	Whole Length	5 days	No Alternative Route
Kent Hatch Road, Sevenoaks	Whole Length	15 days	Hosey Common Road, Vicarage Hill, High Street, Westerham Road, Limpsfield, Kent Hatch Road

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
FARLEY LANE, WESTERHAM (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BYROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Farley Lane, Westerham from its junction with Westerham Road for a distance of 300m.

The Order will become effective on 27th October 2008, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months, the works are planned to take place on the 30th October between the hours of 08:30 and 16:30. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via A25 High Street, B2024 Croydon Road.

The purpose of the Order is to facilitate the removal of a dangerous tree.

Highways - District of Shepway

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(The Old High Street, Folkestone) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because new electrical supply works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on The Old High Street, Folkestone from its junction with Rendezvous Street to its junction with Tontine Street on or after 28 October 2008 for an estimated period of one week or until such works are complete.

There is no alternative route for through traffic access only.

This notice replaces the one printed in error on 28 September 2008.

Highways - District of Swale

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(Crouch Lane, Selling) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because a bridge inspection is proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Crouch Lane, Selling from the junction of Selling Road on the carriageway under the railway bridge, on or after 14 October 2008, for an estimated period of one day from 9.30 am to 3.30 pm, or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Selling Road, South Street, Boughton Church Road, and Dane Court Road (also known as Kit Hill).

Highways - District of Thanet

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(CHATHAM STREET RAMSGATE) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because property refurbishment works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Chatham Street Ramsgate from its junction with Park Road and Boundary Road to its junction with Shah Place and Hollicondane Road on or after 27 October 2008 for an estimated period of 2 weeks or until such works are complete. The Order will remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

The alternative route for through traffic for light vehicles will be via Shah Place and for HGVs via Station Approach Road, Wilfred Road and A253 Park Road.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(Victoria Road) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because new foul drainage connection works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Victoria Road from its junction with Addington Road and Thanet Road to its junction with St John's Road on or after 27 October 2008 for an estimated period of 7 days or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Addington Road, Union Crescent, Cecil Street, Hawley Square, Churchfield Place, Charlotte Square and Charlotte Place.

Specified Road	Length of road affected	Alternative routes
Victoria Road	From the junction with Addington Road and Thanet Road to its junction with St John's Road.	Via Addington Road, Union Crescent, Cecil Street, Hawley Square, Churchfield Place, Charlotte Square and Charlotte Place.
Victoria Road	Suspension of existing one way traffic order between St John's Road and Addington Road.	N/A

Highways - Borough of Tonbridge & Malling

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(LEIGH ROAD, HILDENBOROUGH) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Leigh Road, Hildenborough at the railway bridge on or after Sunday 19th October 2008 when required for a period of up to 1 day or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the route described above is for southbound traffic via B2027 Stocks Green Road, B2027 Hildenborough Road, Powder Mill Lane, Leigh Road and for northbound traffic vice versa.

W S Atkins apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary for a railway bridge inspection. Should you require any further information about these works, their contact is Tracy Zeal of Ashtead Plant Hire Company Ltd on 01666 828670.

For further information, please contact Geoff Mee, Director for Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent Highway Services

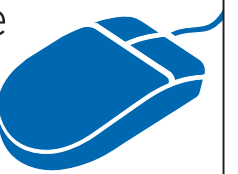
WORLDWIDE TAILOR MADE HOLIDAYS LIMITED
(t/a bluebookonline and USA Tailor Made Holidays)
Company Number 02946235
Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a meeting of the creditors of the above-named Company will be held at Judd House, 16 East Street, Tonbridge, Kent TN9 1HG, on Tuesday 4 November 2008, at 11.30 am for the purposes mentioned in Sections 100 and 101 of the said Act. Forms of proxy to be used at the Meeting, accompanied by a statement of claim, must be lodged at the offices of Vantis Business Recovery Services, Judd House, 16 East Street, Tonbridge, Kent TN9 1HG, the registered office of the Company, not later than 12.00 noon on Monday 3 November 2008. Vincent John Green and Mark Newman of Vantis Business Recovery Services, Judd House, 16 East Street, Tonbridge, Kent TN9 1HG, are persons qualified to act as Insolvency Practitioners in relation to the Company who, during the period before the day on which the meeting is to be held, will furnish Creditors free of charge, with such information concerning the Company's affairs as they may reasonably require.
Dated: 7 October 2008
By Order of the Board
P A Lee, Director

The Insolvency Act 1986
C & R SAMEDAY LIMITED
Company Number 05910041
Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a meeting of the Creditors of the above-named Company will be held at 6th Floor, 52/54 Gracechurch Street, London, EC3V 0EH, on 14 October 2008, at 12.30 pm for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99 to 101 of the said Act.
Creditors wishing to vote at the Meeting must lodge their proxy, together with a full statement of account at the registered office - Robert Day and Company Limited, The Old Library, The Walk, Winslow, Buckingham, MK18 3AJ not later than 12.00 noon on 13 October 2008.
For the purposes of voting, a secured creditor is required (unless he surrenders his security) to lodge at Robert Day and Company Limited, The Old Library, The Walk, Winslow, Buckingham, MK18 3AJ before the meeting, a statement giving particulars of his security, the date when it was given and the value at which it is assessed.
Robert Day of Robert Day and Company Limited, The Old Library, The Walk, Winslow, Buckingham, MK18 3AJ, is qualified to act as an insolvency practitioner in relation to the above company and will furnish creditors free of charge with such information concerning the company's affairs as is reasonably required.
Dated 2 October 2008
By Order of the Board
Carl Hyndman, Director

The Insolvency Act 1986
WIPERIAN LIMITED
In accordance with Rule 4.106 of the Insolvency Rules 1986, notice is hereby given that I, G W Rhodes a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Begbies Traynor, 2/3 Pavilion Buildings, Brighton, East Sussex, BN1 1EE, was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the members and creditors on 6th October 2008. All debts and claims should be sent to me at the above address.
All creditors who have not already done so are invited to prove their claims in writing to me. No further public advertisement of invitation to prove debts will be given.
Dated: 6th October 2008
G W Rhodes, Liquidator

The Insolvency Act 1986
THE WORKFORCE GROUP LIMITED
T/a Bromley Hot Tubs and Pools
(Company Number 04567070)
Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of creditors of the above-named company will be held on 20 October 2008 at 11.30 am at the offices of Mazars LLP, Tower Bridge House, St Katharine's Way, London, E1W 1DD for the purpose of having a full statement of the position of the company's affairs, together with a list of the creditors of the company and the estimated amount of their claims, laid before them, and for the purpose, if thought fit, of nominating a Liquidator and of appointing a Liquidation Committee. (Sections 99 to 101 of the said Act.).
A form of proxy, if intended to be used by creditors wishing to vote at the meeting, must be duly completed and accompanied by their statement of claim, and must be lodged at the offices of Mazars LLP, Tower Bridge House, St Katharine's Way, London, E1W 1DD, not later than 12.00 noon on the business day prior to the meeting.
Notice is also given that, for the purpose of voting, secured creditors must (unless they surrender their security) lodge at Mazars LLP, Tower Bridge House, St Katharine's Way, London, E1W 1DD, before the meeting, a statement giving particulars of their security, the date when it was given, and the value at which it is assessed.
In accordance with Section 98(2) Insolvency Act 1986, a list of creditors' names and addresses will be available for inspection, free of charge, at the offices of Mazars LLP, Tower Bridge House, St Katharine's Way, London, E1W 1DD, on the two business days immediately prior to the meeting.
Dated: 8 October 2008
By Order of the Board
T Mantoura, Director

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New Avensis signals intent to take on the Germans

By **STEVE LOADER**

VAUXHALL'S eagerly awaited Insignia has dominated coverage of the traditional family car or 'rep-mobile' arena.

But Toyota is also about to launch its latest challenger into a sector undermined by the rise of 4x4s, MPVs and premium models like the BMW 3-Series.

It will be the third generation Avensis and was engineered and designed in Europe, for exclusive production at Toyota's factory near Derby.

Unlike its underwhelming predecessors it also promises to be as stylish as the new Vauxhall when it arrives in January.

Toyota has pepped up the package with new 'Valvematic' petrol engines – designed to deliver more power and performance with 10-26 per cent lower emissions via variable valve timing.

Emissions

The D-4D diesel options have also been revised to lower emissions by around 10 per cent and there is even a 'Multidrive S' continuously variable transmission (CVT) option. This auto gearbox format has not proved popular on larger cars, but Toyota claims to have eradicated the type's characteristic whine.

The drive towards economy and lower emissions was also bound to cause manufacturers to re-evaluate the CVT, especially as they are under pressure to reduce average CO2 emissions across their line-ups – the new Avensis will cut Toyota's fleet average CO2 emissions to 140g/km by 2009.

Toyota claims to have created a car that balances apparently conflicting needs of buyers – power and performance with economy and low emissions and driver enjoyment with comfort.

Toyota has also chosen to make the Avensis only in saloon and Tourer (estate) form this time, no doubt recognising that a hatchback could undermine the car's bid for a more premium market position.

The estate was also built as a separate entity to ensure that it could deliver the necessity load capacity, aerodynamics, economy and emissions.

Both body styles look stylish, yet are just 50mm longer than the current car and match it for height, while offering more space inside – this can be enhanced by the panoramic roof option on the Tourer.



Toyota has a further trick up its sleeve; it made much the old car's refinement and clearly intends that its successor should seek to nibble at the volumes of the German premium marques, much as Ford and Vauxhall hope with the latest Mondeo and the Insignia.

So Toyota, no doubt armed with expertise from its own premium experts at Lexus, says it has driven down NVH – noise, vibration and harshness – levels on the latest Avensis.

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INSIDE



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New Jazz age is here Page 49



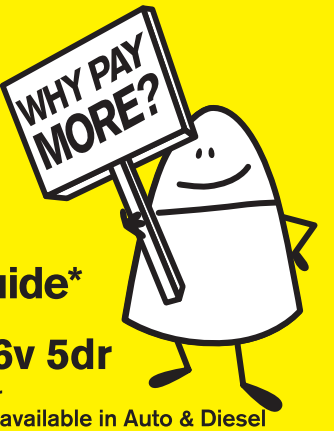
Honda's future classic Pages 52-53

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MPVs — Choice of 140

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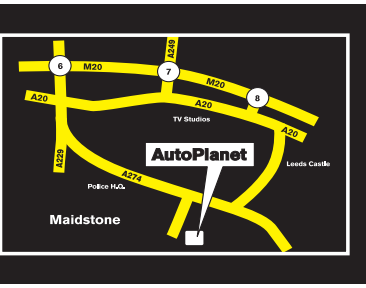
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FIRST GEAR

Compiled by Steve Loader

Twin charger power for new Seat Cupra

SPANISH sporting marque Seat has harnessed parent group VW's 'twin charger' engine technology to deliver a fiery new generation Ibiza Cupra.

It uses the latest three-door SC or SportCoupé version of the new supermini, with a 177bhp supercharged and turbocharged 1.4 TSI petrol engine designed to maximise both power and fuel economy.

The really clever part though is mating the engine with the VW Group's excellent seven-speed DSG (Direct Shift Gearbox) transmission, complete with F1-style steering wheel shift-paddles; this gives you an automatic option when stuck in heavy town traffic, while retaining all the sporty and fuel-saving advantages of a manual.

In case of doubt about the car's purpose, it is also shod with five-spoke 17-inch alloys and low-profile tyres.

Prices and specifications will be announced ahead of launch early in 2009.



Suzuki's little and large

LOOKING for a reflection of the UK's fall from boom to bust? Look no further than the 4x4 market.

But one 4x4 that should resist the decline better than most is the Suzuki Grand Vitara, because here is a keenly priced SUV (sports utility vehicle) that can do some off-roading too and there will always be demand for 'proper 4x4s'.

Some 20 years on from the original Vitara, the latest generation Grand Vitara also has a new refined 2.4-litre petrol-powered flagship, replacing the old 2.0-litre option – although I cannot imagine many buyers choosing that over the diesel.

More welcome is the fitting of ESP (electronic stability programme) as standard on this newcomer and the positioning of the three-door version as a uniquely sporty offering in the SUV sector, with a high specification plus 17-inch alloys, rear privacy glass and in-dash six-CD system.



Prices for the new 2.4 models start at £14,499 for the three-door manual.

At the other end of the Suzuki line-up there is news of the Japanese marque's next generation Alto baby car.

Previous Altos were bland and a little crude though typically reliable, but Suzuki claims the new car is sporty and Europe-inspired – claims that can be applied to Suzuki's impressive Swift supermini.

The new Alto is aimed at urban consumers who want a stylish, economical and eco-friendly small car – the front occupants are its priority for space, but it can carry four.

Power comes from a three-cylinder 65bhp 1.0-litre petrol engine capable of averaging more than 60mpg and emitting just 103g/km of CO2, though the latter is so close to being exempt from UK road tax (100g/km) that I would not bet against Suzuki tweaking it further before the Alto arrives next March.



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New Jazz age is upon us

by STEVE LOADER



HONDA has hit the right note at the right time with the arrival of the new Jazz this month.

Like the original it improvises on a supermini theme with some MPV thrown in – a composition written to harmonise with the nation's new found passion for downsizing.

The Jazz is a big car with a small footprint on the road, offering lots of load space, driving feel and high-spec equipment, plus the fuel economy, modest emissions and affordable running costs the market now demands more widely.

And where the 'Mark 1' was a bit fuddy-duddy, its replacement is far sharper and more upbeat, reflected by predictions that it will hold its value on the used market better than any rival.

The outgoing car was not exactly on Skid Row here, but figures from market watchers at Glass's Guide and CAP suggest new Jazz models could be worth as much as 44 per cent of original price after three years and 60,000 miles – that is seven per cent better than the original and tough competitors like the VW Polo.

"Every now and then a car comes along that challenges the long established rules of depreciation. In this regard the Jazz has confounded many," said Jason King of Eurotax Glass's – publishers of the Guide.

"It's a compact car with huge flexibility, decent driving dynamics and some of the best residual values in the industry."

"Securing strong residual values and whole life costs for a car that represents quality and value for money was critical," said Honda's own national leasing manager Lee Wheeler. "This uplift in residual values reaffirms the car's position as a sector leader and will help achieve increased conquest sales through the corporate market - particularly the public sector where (the) Jazz is especially popular."







Prices start at £9,990 for the 1.2-litre version, which can average around 53mpg, but Honda needs to get the emissions down slightly from 125g/km CO2 and the £120/year road tax band-C - shaving just 5g/km would get the car into the lowest payable £35/year tier. Until it achieves this, the livelier 1.4-litre model looks a better bet – the performance is better, the road tax is the same, while fuel consumption and emissions are hardly any worse.

There is also an i-SHIFT automated manual transmission option available from January, which is also on an economy par with the conventional manual versions.

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REG. No.	MODEL / ENGINE	COLOUR	COST	SAVING	PRICE	DEPOSIT	60 MONTHLY	APR
GJ58SYH	Fabia 1 1.2 6v 60bhp 5dr Hatch	CORRIDA RED	£8,860.00	£1,270.00	£7,590.00	£0.00	£158.16	9.8%
GJ58SYA	Fabia 2 1.2 12v 70bhp 5dr Hatch	BLACK MAGIC	£10,225.00	£835.00	£9,390.00	£0.00	£194.97	9.6%
GJ58SYF	Fabia 2 1.2 12v 70bhp 5dr Hatch	DYNAMIC BLUE	£9,830.00	£840.00	£8,990.00	£0.00	£186.79	9.7%
GJ58SYE	Fabia 2 1.4 TDi 80bhp 5dr Hatch	BLACK MAGIC	£11,710.00	£920.00	£10,790.00	£1,250.00	£198.04	9.6%
GJ58SYG	Fabia 2 1.4 TDi 80bhp 5dr Hatch	TANGERINE ORANGE	£12,035.00	£1,045.00	£10,990.00	£1,500.00	£197.02	9.6%
GJ58SYR	Fabia 2 1.9 TDi 105bhp 5dr Hatch	CAPPUCCINO BEIGE	£12,785.00	£995.00	£11,790.00	£2,250.00	£198.04	9.6%
GJ58SYS	Fabia 2 1.9 TDi 105bhp 5dr Hatch	SATIN GREY	£12,785.00	£995.00	£11,790.00	£2,250.00	£198.04	9.6%
GJ58SYP	Fabia 3 1.9 TDi 105bhp 5dr Hatch	BLACK MAGIC	£13,850.00	£1,160.00	£12,690.00	£3,250.00	£195.99	9.6%
GK58NMU	Fabia Greenline 1.4 TDi 80bhp 5dr Hatch	BRILLIANT SILVER	£12,105.00	£1,115.00	£10,990.00	£1,500.00	£197.02	9.6%
GJ58SYO	Octavia Ambiente 1.8 TSi 160bhp 5dr Hatch	DIAMOND SILVER	£15,190.00	£2,200.00	£12,990.00	£3,500.00	£197.02	9.6%

EX-DEMONSTRATION SKODA

REG. No.	MODEL / ENGINE	COLOUR	COST	SAVING	PRICE	DEPOSIT	60 MONTHLY	APR
GJ08YLU	Fabia 2 1.2 12v 70bhp 5dr Hatch	STORM BLUE	£10,570.00	£1,580.00	£8,990.00	£0.00	£186.79	9.7%
KS57EHD	Fabia 2 1.4 TDi 80bhp 5dr Hatch	SATIN GREY	£11,655.00	£2,165.00	£9,490.00	£0.00	£197.02	9.6%
GJ08VBE	Fabia 3 1.4 TDi 80bhp 5dr Hatch	FLAMENCO RED	£12,815.00	£1,825.00	£10,990.00	£1,500.00	£197.02	9.6%
GL08DDY	Fabia 1 1.2 12v 70bhp 5dr Estate	STORM BLUE	£9,890.00	£1,400.00	£8,490.00	£0.00	£176.57	9.7%
GJ08VBF	Fabia 2 1.4 16v 85bhp 5dr Estate	STORM BLUE	£11,800.00	£1,510.00	£10,290.00	£750.00	£198.04	9.6%
GK08ZNM	Fabia 2 1.4 16v 85bhp 5dr Estate	CAPPUCCINO BEIGE	£11,450.00	£1,160.00	£10,290.00	£750.00	£198.04	9.6%
GJ08VBK	Roomster 2 1.6 16v 105bhp MPV	OLIVE GREEN	£12,375.00	£2,585.00	£9,790.00	£250.00	£198.04	9.6%
GL08WMX	Roomster 2 1.6 16v AUTO 105bhp MPV	CAPPUCCINO BEIGE	£13,085.00	£2,295.00	£10,790.00	£1,250.00	£198.04	9.6%
GJ08VBG	Roomster 2 1.4 TDi 80bhp 5dr MPV	FLAMENCO RED	£12,965.00	£2,675.00	£10,290.00	£750.00	£198.04	9.6%
GJ08YLR	Roomster Scout 1.9 TDi 105bhp 5dr MPV	POLAR BLUE	£15,390.00	£3,100.00	£12,290.00	£2,750.00	£198.04	9.6%
KS57EEA	Octavia Ambiente 1.9 TDi 105bhp 5dr Hatch	BRILLIANT SILVER	£15,150.00	£3,160.00	£11,990.00	£2,500.00	£197.02	9.6%
GJ08VAU	Octavia Ambiente 1.9 TDi 105bhp 5dr Hatch	SATIN GREY	£15,300.00	£2,310.00	£12,990.00	£3,500.00	£197.02	9.6%
GL57YKV	Octavia Elegance 1.9 TDi 105bhp 5dr Hatch	SATIN GREY	£16,170.00	£2,180.00	£13,990.00	£4,500.00	£197.02	9.6%
GK08ZNX	Octavia L&K 2.0 TDi 140bhp 5dr Hatch	BLACK MAGIC	£20,070.00	£2,580.00	£17,490.00	£5,500.00	£248.14	9.4%
GJ08VAV	Octavia Ambiente 2.0 TDi DSG 140bhp 5dr Estate	STORM BLUE	£17,135.00	£2,445.00	£14,690.00	£2,750.00	£247.12	9.4%
GL08XRC	Octavia L&K 2.0 FSi AUTO 150bhp 5dr Estate	ISLAND GREEN	£20,595.00	£2,605.00	£17,990.00	£6,000.00	£248.14	9.4%
GK08ZNY	Octavia L&K 2.0 TDi 140bhp 5dr Estate	STORM BLUE	£21,125.00	£2,835.00	£18,290.00	£6,250.00	£249.16	9.4%
GJ08YLX	Octavia L&K 2.0 TDi DSG 140bhp 5dr Estate	BRILLIANT SILVER	£22,470.00	£2,980.00	£19,490.00	£7,500.00	£248.14	9.4%
KV57BVX	Superb Elegance 2.0 TDi 140bhp Saloon	BLACK MAGIC	£20,690.00	£5,200.00	£15,490.00	£3,500.00	£248.14	9.6%

FURTHER REDUCTIONS ON USED OCTAVIA

REG. No.	MODEL / ENGINE	COLOUR	WAS	SAVING	PRICE	DEPOSIT	60 MONTHLY	APR
GL07TTY	Octavia Ambiente 1.9 TDi 105bhp 5dr Hatch	CORRIDA RED	£11,990.00	£1,500.00	£10,490.00	£1,000.00	£197.02	9.6%
GL07CFV	Octavia Ambiente 1.9 TDi 105bhp 5dr Hatch	BLACK MAGIC	£11,990.00	£1,500.00	£10,490.00	£1,000.00	£197.02	9.6%
GL07CFJ	Octavia Ambiente 1.9 TDi DSG 105bhp 5dr Hatch	CAPPUCCINO BEIGE	£12,290.00	£1,500.00	£10,790.00	£1,250.00	£198.04	9.6%
GL07TUO	Octavia Elegance 1.9 TDi 105bhp 5dr Hatch	CAPPUCCINO BEIGE	£12,490.00	£1,500.00	£10,990.00	£1,500.00	£197.02	9.6%
GL07TUP	Octavia Elegance 1.9 TDi 105bhp 5dr Hatch	SATIN GREY	£12,490.00	£1,500.00	£10,990.00	£1,500.00	£197.02	9.6%

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Honda S2000



ACTORS hailed as a ‘national treasure’ must seethe within as they smile their acknowledgement.

Though intended to be affectionate recognition of a great career, this label also seems to proclaim that the roles are drying up and the curtain will soon fall.

The motoring equivalent of this double-edged sword is surely ‘future classic’ – a dubbing that now hovers over the hitherto jaunty shoulders of the Honda S2000 roadster.

It has been with us since 1999 and we saw an outline of its replacement at the London motor show in July – a more rounded low-emission, very PC successor that will surely cement the raucous S2000 more firmly in the memories of those lucky enough to have driven one.

On the face of it, two litres under the bonnet is not much to boast about and the rival Mazda MX-5 perennially gets stick for not having the hairy-chested power to go with its tidy chassis, but the MX’s flagship 2.0-litre delivers 158bhp and 0-60mph in around eight seconds – the S2000 thinks it is a three-litre, punching out 237bhp and 5.6 seconds.

And it lets you know too; the S2000 engine is

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*Prices quoted are on the road and include delivery to dealership, number plates, 12 months’ Government Vehicle Excise Duty, £55 Government First Registration Fee and apply to the 107 Urban Lite 1.0 3 door, 207 S 1.4 VTi 3 door and 308 Sport VTi 5 door. Different offers available in Northern Ireland and Channel Islands – ask your local Peugeot Dealer for details. **Terms and conditions apply. For more information please speak to your local dealer. All offers apply to vehicles ordered by 20th October 2008. 207 and 308 vehicles must be registered by 31st October 2008. All offers may be withdrawn by Peugeot Motor Company PLC at its discretion. Offers subject to availability at participating dealers only and apply to selected vehicles only. Prices, offers and information correct at time of going to press. Models shown are for illustrative purposes only.





one of the most dramatic demonstrations of Honda's VTEC camshaft technology, delivering a Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde profile to the engine's performance and volume, switching from cultured smoothie to snarling hooligan when you really pile on the revs.

This means that the S2000 can be a relatively docile, comfortable and useable everyday car even if it is a low-slung two-seater with little boot space. It can also average around 30mpg, helped by a six-speed gearbox.

But start using that sweet gearshift and two-tone engine and the consumption and thrills start to climb. You should also note that CO2 emissions place it in the highest (£400/year) road tax band.

Like its straight-laced rival, the Mazda, the Honda has the classic sports car layout – front engine and rear-wheel drive – but it does not quite have the Mazda's poise and early models could be a handful, allegedly.

I can't answer for that, but the midlife makeover would appear to have done away with any surprises without emasculating the car – I enjoyed a great twisty drive across Romney Marsh, even if the poor weather prevented me from putting the top down.

When I did finally manage a 10-minute opentop blast, I found the powered hood a bit fiddly to fasten home, but it is weather and wind-tight.



Though Honda went the purist route with the car's chassis, it shunned the retro 1960s Elan-esque lines of the MX-5 generations in favour of a sharper-edged look, made extra intense by 'angry' headlamps.

There are signs of Honda's wilfulness inside too; as if to emphasise the loony-revving engine, the S2000 binnacle is dominated by a lit-up rev counter strip rather than conventional clock – hit the throttle sharply and your eyes see what your ears are hearing.

Less successful is the digital readout for the speed; it's dead centre and un-missable, but it is not very traditional and it is one of the less likeable features of an interior that is otherwise impeccably made and underlines, in Honda style, that this car is pretty well unbreakable despite encouraging you to rev it silly.

If you ever get behind the wheel of an S2000 though, here is a warning: you need to be Sherlock Holmes to find the release for the fuel filler cap if you have already looked in vain for the owner's manual. It looks like one of those grommets that crop up around door openings and only after peering myopically at it on bended knees, will you make out vague letters spelling 'Fuel' – I know this, because I had gravel indentations in my knees.

Fond memories of the S2000 though – a future classic and, perhaps, 'motoring treasure' too.

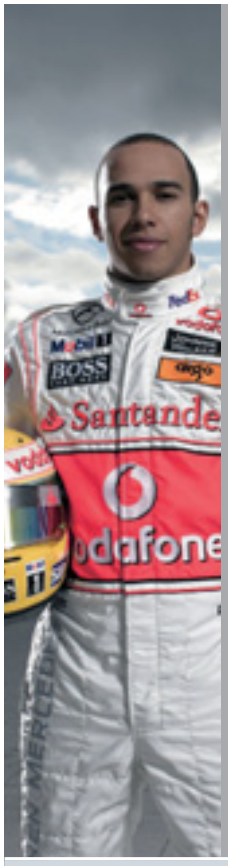
DrivingStats

- Honda S2000
- Range: £28,195-28,745
- Garage stats: 4.13m by 1.75m two-seat roadster
- Powertrain: 1,997cc/237bhp four-cylinder petrol engine driving rear wheels through a six-speed gearbox
- Performance: top speed 150mph and 0-62mph in 6.2 seconds
- How green?: road tax band-G (£400/yr), CO2 emissions 236g/km
- Official fuel figures: combined 39.2mpg
- Euro NCAP safety rating (0-5 stars): ****
- Fuel tank: 50 litres/11 gallons
- Insurance group: 20
- Warranty: three years/90,000 miles
- Website: www.honda.co.uk
- Rivals: Alfa Romeo Spider, Audi TT, BMW Z4, Chrysler Crossfire Roadster, Mazda MX-5, Mercedes SLK, Nissan 350Z Convertible, Porsche Boxster and VW Eos

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A3, QUATTRO SPORT 3dr, ls53okv, remote central locking, full leather, head restraints, power steering, abs, air bag, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, electric windows, electric mirrors, climate control, cd player, radio, 16'' alloys, 4x4, blue, 27000 miles, £8499, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

A4, 1.9TDI 130 SE ESTATE, 2003, blue m with grey cloth, 67000 miles, £8950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

TT, 1.8 2DR, 2002, trim: leather engine size: 1800 transmission: manual no. of doors: 2, green, 14000 miles, £14995, Palm Bay, Margate, 01843 298554 (TRADE)

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318 SE SALLOON, 2002, 02 (02) bmw 318i se (face lift) 4 door saloon, 143 bhp, met grey coachwork with immaculate grey trim, full service history (just serviced) manual gear box, traction control, cruise control, remote central locking, alarm, air con, power seats, ew x 4, electric & folding mirrors, twin air bags, alloys, original cd hi-fi, stunning condition, true luxury at an affordable price. only £7695, metalic grey, 102, 000 miles, £7695, Riviera Car Sales, Folkestone, 01303 244244 (TRADE)

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CTS, 3.6 SPORT LUXURY V6, 2005, light platinum with black leather, 22379 miles, £12950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

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KALOS, S 1.2, gf57gxx, finished in sports blue with black interior, blue, 1000 miles, £6295, Caffyns Chevrolet T Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

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300C, 5.7V8 auto estate, 2007, brilliant crystal met with dark and light slate gr, 10577 miles, £18950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

NEON, LE AUTO, ex51reu, central locking, cloth upholstery, head restraints, adjustable steering column, power steering, twin air bags, colour coded body, cd player, radio, air conditioning, electric mirrors, electric front windows, this vehicle is currently located at our barnehurst branch, for further details or to arrange a viewing please contact 01322 554 784, black, 34000 miles, £1995, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

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C-CROSSER, 2.2 HDI Exclusive 5dr, 2007, 2.2 hdi exclusive 5dr diesel estate, blue, 100 miles, £21495, Wilmoths Folkestone, Folkestone, 01303 245 588 (TRADE)

C2, 1.4I Cool 3dr, 2007, 1.4i cool 3dr hatch sp eds, arctic steel, 7500 miles, £6995, Masters Citroen, Penge, 0208 659 0909 (TRADE)

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DAEWOO NUBIRA 4 door saloon, 06 2000, 1.6 p se mot july 08, 0 miles, £500, Beaver Commercials, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

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GRANDE PUNTO, alloys a/con audi steering controls electric mirrors electric windows remote c/locking radio/cd player, blue metallic, 25, 000 miles, £5695, Cheriton Motor House, Folkestone, 01303 275795 (TRADE)

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C-MAX, 1.8TDCI Style 5dr, bn08jxl, abs, air bag, twin air bags, side air bags, alarm, air conditioning, electric front windows, rear wash/wipe, electric mirrors, central locking, immobiliser, cloth upholstery, centre armrest, head restraints, height adjustable seat, retractable headrests, folding rear seats, rear headrests, seat-back tables, adjustable steering column, power steering, trip computer, metallic paintwork, automatic electric windows, cd player, radio, stereo, vision blue met, 1077 miles, £11999, AutoPlanet Maidstone, Maidstone, 0845 871 5185 (TRADE)

C-MAX, 1.8 Titanium 5dr, wn57xdz, metallic panther black. contact the used car team for more help. black, 10942 miles, £11500, SMC Ford Sittingbourne, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

FOCUS, ZETEC Climate (2007.5) 5 Dr Hatchback 1.8 Duratec, 20/12/2007, cd player abs driver airbag power steering immobiliser electric windows, grey, 2500 miles, £11300, Invicta Motors, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

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ACCORD, I-VTEC SE Executive 5dr auto, v613gur, full leather, remote central locking, immobiliser, pas, abs, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, electric windows, electric mirrors, air con, locking wheel nuts, electric seats, heated seats, lumbar support, folding rear seats, cruise control, multi-function steering wheel, traction control, trip computer, child locks, side air bags, twin air bags, climate control, electric sunroof, radio cassette, 15'' alloys, blue, 96500 miles, £2499, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

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COUPE, SE 1975CC 3 door, 2006, cd player air conditioning alloy wheels central locking approved driver's airbag power steering history check electric windows, silver, 17200 miles, £8995, Pomphrey's of Sittingbourne, Sittingbourne, 01795 476222 (TRADE)

JAGUAR

S TYPE 3.0, 2003 (03), 03 (53) jaguar s-type v6 3.0 se auto, metallic silver coachwork with grey leather trim, only 42000 miles, full service history, usual jaguar refinements to include: power and memory seats, memory steering wheel position, air conditioning/climate control, electric windows, electric & folding mirrors, cd multiplayer with hi-fi pack, multiple air bags, electronic park brake, on board computer, cruse control, traction control, tinted glass, alloy wheels etc, etc. only £9, 995, metallic silver, £9995, Riviera Car Sales, Folkestone, 01303 244244 (TRADE)

SOVEREIGN, 4.0 Saloon 4d 3980cc auto, p 1997, electric windows, electric mirrors, remote central alarmed locking, air conditioning, radio cassette system, cruise control, cream interior leather, electric seats, memory seats, alloy wheels, front fog lamps, colour coded body, lots of service history. metallic silver/grey, miles, £3995, Westbrook Cars, Canterbury, 01227 710685 (TRADE)

X-TYPE, 2.0D SE Saloon 4d 1998cc, 04 2004, speed box, full jaguar service history, cd/radio, ivory leather trim, electric windows, central locking, power assisted steering, cruise control, electric mirrors, air conditioning, front and rear heated screens, airbags, abs, front fog lamps, alloys, immaculate condition, metallic pacific blue, miles, £12995, Westbrook Cars, Canterbury, 01227 710685 (TRADE)

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DEFENDER, 90 TD5 Soft Top, power steering, tow pack, cd player, alloy wheels, 4x4, side hinged tailgate.stickers on sides of vehicle are removable. road tax is £210 per year on this vehicle, green, 18000 miles, £11995, Diesel Centre, Staplehurst, 01580 890333 (TRADE)

DEFENDER, 110 TD5 High Capacity Pick Up, de52efx, power steering, tow pack, side steps, radio cassette, 4x4, direct from major utility co.tel. 01795 430295, white, 53000 miles, £8000, Clearways Commercials, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

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MICRA, 1.2 SE Automatic, 2004, techno grey, 22500 miles, £4995, CB Motors, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

PEUGEOT

106, INDEPENDANCE, 2000, green with black, 43968 miles, £2195, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

206, 1.4 GLX (a/c) Hatchback 3d 1360cc (1999), x, rain sens wipers, 6 stack cd player, e/e, a/b etc.nice clean car, green, 72, 000 miles, £2199.00, Bob Fisher Garage, Ashford, 01303 814131 (TRADE)

306, 1.8LX, 1999 (t), auto, 5 door hatch, stunning met green coachwork with grey velour trim, pas, ew, em, air conditioning, air bags, remote central locking alarm immobilizer, quality cd hi-fi, long mot, service history, only 2 former keepers. now £1895 many more quality pre-owned cars for sale on: www.rivieracarsales.co.uk, metallic green, low mileage miles, £only £1895, Riviera Car Sales, Folkestone, 01303 244244 (TRADE)

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LAGUNA, 1.8 16V DYNAMIQUE Hatchback 5d 1783cc (2001), x, alloy wheels central locking, sunroof. red, miles, £2999.00, Bob Fisher Garage, Ashford, 01303 814131 (TRADE)

MEGANE, PRIVILEGE 1.6+ CABRIOLET, 2007, trim: part leather engine size: 1600 transmission: manual no. of doors: 2, pearl black, 8000 miles, £11995, Palm Bay, Margate, 01843 298554 (TRADE)

ROVER

216 CABRIOLET, 1997, grey, 0 miles, £1295, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

SEAT

IBIZA, 12V 5dr, gn03eza, immobiliser, cloth upholstery, head restraints, power steering, air bag, colour coded body, rear wash/wipe, electric windows, stereo, blue, 29000 miles, £3999, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

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IMPREZA, WRX TURBO, 2004, red, 38000 miles, £10995, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

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COMBO, 1700 CDTI, bg05rly, remote central locking, abs, air bag, power steering, radio cassette, ply-lined, white, 25000 miles, £3595, Clearways Commercials, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

Kent Highway Services

For information and advice on travelling in Kent, go to page **16**.

For all our Traffic Regulation Orders, please go to page **44**.





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Commercial vehicle feature

AS COMPANIES and fleets brace themselves for a stormy economic passage, commercial vehicle experts argue that this is no time to experiment with lesser known vehicles.

Ford leads the market and its best-seller, the Transit, has virtually become the generic name for a panel van.

The Transit is available with front or rear-wheel-drive and there is even a 4x4 version for operators who need to get into and out of sticky situations.

The Transit also now has a baby brother – the Transit Connect (inset).



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Van market slows but some optimism shows

COMMERCIAL vehicle registrations are a good barometer for the UK economy and the latest figures do not make good reading on the face of it.

The blackest picture is painted by the 22 per cent decline in new van sales during the September new registration month against the same month last year and on top of a 4.6 per cent fall overall in 2008.

However, the fall has been slower to feed through to the truck sector – nearly 20 per cent up in September and nearly 28 per cent to the good so far this year.

Paul Everitt, chief executive of motor industry mouthpiece, the SMMT, said: "September is a key month for registrations, but the credit crunch hit the figures. The summer's spending cut meant a sharp drop in the month's van registrations.

"We expect the van market will stay well below recent levels for some time. Trucks, stable for the month and well up for the rolling year, saw orders drop through the summer, so registrations will suffer soon. Overall, we expect a tough market for the next 12 months or more."

But some manufacturers are putting on a brave face:

Vauxhall – no2 in the market after Ford – boosted commercial vehicle sales in September by eight per cent compared to the same month in 2007 and recorded its highest retail share ever.

Furthermore, the Luton-built Vivaro was the UK's best-selling van to retail customers, recording 1,167 sales in the private sector and a further 1,177 fleet sales – making it the UK's second most popular van overall.

The smaller Combo also shone, leading the light van segment at fleet and total levels.

Vauxhall's National CV sales manager, Richard Collier, said: "This is great news, as it proves that Vauxhall has great products – essential in a challenging marketplace.

"Our performance in the retail sector shows that our products appeal to customers who want great value and quality, both of which are incredibly important to small businesses in the current climate."



VALUE FOR MONEY: Vauxhall, producer of the big-selling mid-range Vivaro panel van, is putting a brave face on faltering van registrations after bucking the market trend in September

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*Saving shown is against Vauxhall list price at time of publication. On the road prices include customer savings, number plates, delivery. Vehicle Excise Duty and a first registration fee. Models shown are for illustration purposes only. Offers are available for orders placed between 03.10.08 and 02.12.08, subject to availability, and are available to small businesses 1-24 units only (purchase only). All other sales categories are excluded. Offers may not apply to all retailer stocks. UK-supplied vehicles only. All prices exclude VAT at 17.5%.

Buy the right van and you can sell it on

FOR most self-employed tradesmen running a van or companies with just a handful of staff, purchase price is the biggest concern.

But residual value – the price commanded when they sell – is also crucial.

Mark Cowdell of the market valuation guide CAP said: "Driver comfort is an important area to consider when specifying the vehicle.

"Air conditioning is increasingly popular and brings around £350 at three years, although the downside is that it can increase fuel consumption.

"An electric pack (mirrors/windows) enhances driver comfort and adds around £75 extra to the vehicle at three years.

"Colour is important too. While corporate livery is a great advertising tool, values can be lower at disposal time if the colour scheme is deemed outside the norm."

He added that metallic paints can also recover £300 at three years, with the potential downside that repairs are more expensive than solid colours.

Mr Cowdell continued: "Condition is one of the most important aspects when valuing a commercial vehicle. A good clean van with the right options in the right colour could enhance the end value significantly and help reduce disposal time."

Vauxhall advises buyers to 'future-proof' the value of their van by buying the right specification and keeping it serviced and in good condition.

When short-listing, weigh the mileage you cover and type of driving you do when choosing between petrol or diesel and selecting engine size.

Specialist bodies and conversions by manufacturers themselves are also consistent and likely to maintain the value of the vehicle better than out-sourced ones and will have the same warranty as the standard vehicle.

Ply-lining your van can help protect the interior and contribute to a higher residual value – Vauxhall retailers offer this option.



New smaller options boost Fiat's position in van sector

FIAT has long enjoyed a strong market position with its larger vans, but now challenges across the board with the stylish super-mini-based Grande Punto and new award-winning Fiorino.

While the Grande Punto can be the ideal flag-waving courier van for businesses, the Fiorino is an excellent all-rounder belying its compact size.

It is cheap to run, nimble in traffic, handy to park and unload and has a 610 and 660 kg capacity, volume of 2.5 cubic metres, internal length of 1.5 metres or 2.5 metres with the passenger seat folded.

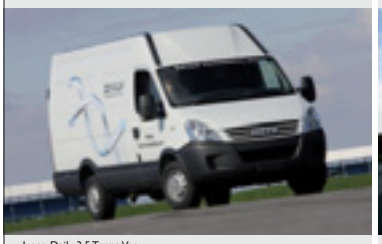
Apart from the standard goods model, the Italian brand also offers the Combi for mixed transport of people and goods and the Adventure with raised ground clearance.

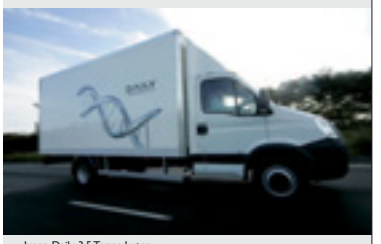
The new Fiorino (pictured) is available with 73bhp 1.4 petrol or 75bhp 1.3 MultiJet turbodiesel engines.

Fiat also offers the larger Doblo model – also popular in people carrier mode – mid-size Scudo and the popular panel van-class Ducato.


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STYLISH: Vauxhall's sleek Astravan shows how far the humble car-derived van has come from its basic beginnings

VANS have been transformed swiftly in recent years.

Specifications, comfort, performance, economy and safety are now closely in step with cars; van drivers are no longer the poor relations of the road.

Choice of size has also expanded – ranging from around 3m3 to over 17m3 – with far better access too; at least one sliding door is fitted as standard, with the option of a second.

Users can now choose between rear wing doors or a tailgate, while cab doors are now being designed with a reduced opening angle to make it easier to grab the handle when the door is fully open and reduce the risk of the door swinging wide and colliding with a wall, lamppost or another vehicle.

Petrol power remains an option, but has been eclipsed by the extra economy and range of four and five-cylinder turbodiesel units, plus their additional benefits from extended service periods, more modest maintenance costs and longer lasting parts.

The desire and pressure to be greener means operators also favour them for their particulate filters, which take out harmful carbon particles from their exhausts.

'Common rail' diesel technology also continues to transform vans, reducing engine noise and driver fatigue, while delivering optimum performance, even better economy and massive pulling power from low engine speeds.

Semi-automatic

Five or six-speed manual gearboxes are usually standard, but some manufacturers offer the option of automatic, semi-automatic or clutch-less transmissions to make driving easier for urban users. Already widely available in cars, the semi-automatic gearbox offers automatic or manual modes, while clutch-less transmissions perform more like a manual without needing a clutch.

On the safety front, most models now have the option of passenger, side and front curtain airbags, as well as the driver's, plus all driver aids available on cars such as ABS, traction control and even electronic stability control or ESP.

Rather like another ESP – extra sensory perception – that last feature can work even more cleverly on a van by detecting the effect any load in the rear compartment could have on the van's handling, although it cannot help if the vehicle is pushed beyond its limits.



Vehicle	Description	Reg	Colour	Price	Save	Lease From	Vehicle	Description	Reg	Colour	Price	Save	Lease From
Vivaro	SWB Sportive, Alloy wheels, Tailgate	GJ08MDK	Black	£12,495	£5,420	£290	Corsavan	1.3 CDTI Sportive	GJ58URO	Silver	£7,995	£3,585	£185
Vivaro	SWB, 90 BHP	GF08MFE	White	£10,995	£4,820	£255	Corsavan	1.3 CDTI Sportive	GJ58URM	Silver	£7,995	£3,585	£185
Vivaro	SWB, 115 BHP	GJ08HBH	White	£11,795	£4,820	£273	Corsavan	1.3 CDTI	GJ58URL	White	£6,995	£3,315	£162
Vivaro	SWB, Doublecab, Sportive	GJ58XGG	Silver	£14,395	£4,870	£334	Combo	1.3 CDTI	GK57ZNP	White	£7,495	£4,530	£174
Vivaro	SWB, Doublecab, Sportive	GJ58XGR	Black	£14,395	£4,870	£334	Combo	Crewvan 1.7 CDTI	GJ58XFV	White	£8,995	£4,210	£208
Vivaro	SWB, Sportive	GJ58XGM	Silver	£12,995	£4,420	£299	Combo	1.7CDTI	GJ58URN	White	£8,495	£3,870	£197
Vivaro	SWB, Sportive	GJ58XGH	Black	£12,995	£4,420	£299							

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Data's hidden value is missed by many firms

COMPANIES are failing to unlock the full value of their data for future use, according to a new study by data firm Prospect Swetenhams.



Ms Sandom-Brown

The six-month investigation looked at data from a cross-section of clients and found that while most prospect data supplied to it was accurate, customer data was failing to be exploited for future marketing.

Lindsey Sandom-Brown, head of client services, said: "These days data is captured from all manner of sources, from call centres to online, and the formats in which it is captured frequently vary in different parts of the same organisation.

"In addition, the data is rarely captured with future marketing in mind.

"This makes it far more difficult to unlock its true value, not least as automated processes to clean it and match it sometimes do more harm than good, often sacrificing relevance in return for greater accuracy."

The top issues in addressing the effectiveness of customer data included formatting, duplication of records and the presence of what the firm called 'salacious' words which customers often type into online data capture sites themselves.

Ms Sandom-Brown said: "Our clients are becoming more aware of the importance of customer data quality – and for many a great deal of effort has gone into addressing this.

"However, these efforts aren't always focused in the right area, so we can be in danger of a 'baby and bathwater' situation, with some data being lost or discarded which might have given valuable clues about customer behaviour, and some being retained which adds little.

"Ironically, our study suggests the worse a state data is in, the richer the exploration of that data can be.

"It's only when you start to analyse it and play with formats and deal with duplications that you realise the true value."

Speak up for our small businesses

BRITAIN'S Small Business Week starts on Monday. We're in testing economic times – and for small businesses it's just about a war zone.

By **TONY PATEY**
tony.patey@kosmedia.co.uk

But has Kent rallied round to give them a boost next week? To give them a bit of support – even just moral or vocal? Well, no, it seems.

Kent's dominated by what could be described as small or medium-sized businesses (SMEs) – many are surviving and swimming hard and successfully against very strong currents, while others are finding it extremely difficult.

It needs a lot of nerve to stay in business in an economic downturn, it's easy to pack up and walk away – which, of course, is unavoidable in some cases – but to keep going by the skin of your teeth takes guts.

Over the last week or so I asked all our regional chambers of commerce and small business organisations and groups what they would be doing to fly the flag for small businesses this week. But, apparently, they're not running anything up the flag-pole.

It's the second annual SBW being run by BT Business, and the background information sent out by BT said the week would be "specifically focusing on business confidence".

Too right, and it's business confidence that will be a big motor in regenerating the sluggish economy again.

BT Business said: "The week will see a host of initiatives taking place at locations across the UK, including round table discussions, web seminars, podcasts, advice clinics and other events."

Well, not in Kent, apparently.

One of the official partners is Business Link, and that has at least come out urging local bosses not to put the future of their businesses at risk by ignoring their own development needs. The advisory service says that nearly half do not invest as much time and resources in developing their own skills as they would one of their staff.

And a quarter of owners of SMEs interviewed for the three-monthly South East Business Monitor admit that they do not review their skills and learning needs from one year to the next.

Prime Minister Gordon Brown is backing SMEs. He's urging that the almost £12 billion fund designed by the European Investment Bank (EIB) last month to be released gradually over the next two years must be made available now.

It's time Kent did, as well. I look forward to my email box being filled on Monday morning with news of Small Business Week events.

One Kent small business bucking the current economic gloom is Sevenoaks-based Acorn Recruitment which notched up a record quarter for the three months to the end of July, topped off a year that saw it boost its turnover by 63 per cent taking it up to £715,000 from £430,000 in 2006/07.

Managing director Geoff Newman said: "The credit crunch is encouraging some very talented people at all stages of their careers out of the City and into Kent firms."

Self-builders benefiting from credit crunch

GOOD news for people thinking about self-building their homes – about a third more land than usual is now available as developers release bargain plots from landbanks as they struggle to fund larger developments due to the credit crunch.

According to self-build and renovation specialist BuildStore there has been a massive upswing of available land on its website www.plotsearch.co.uk the biggest land databank of its kind.

In Kent alone, historically a UK self-build hotspot, there are 338 building opportunities – the second highest number of plots in the country, beaten only by Cambridgeshire.

Prime Minister Gordon Brown recently raised the nil-rate band on stamp duty to £175,000 – also good news for self-builders who pay for stamp duty only on the land, not on building costs. Currently 59 per cent of plots on Plotsearch cost less than that.

Land prices in Kent start at a bargain-bucket £18,000 for a modest replacement bungalow in popular Canterbury, rising to £3,000,000 for an 18,000 sq ft plot near Maidstone, with outline planning permission for a contemporary luxury detached home with stables.

BuildStore claims another factor may be the phenomena of backyard builders – people hiving off portions of their gardens to raise money during the credit crunch.

The self-build and renovation sector has seen less of a general slowdown than other areas, although land prices specifically have fallen in line with the rest of the market, making self-build an even more accessible and affordable option.

Raymond Connor, chief executive of BuildStore said: "For many self-builders and renovators, the first stumbling block is finding a suitable plot to build on, so increased land availability is great news."

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BUSINESS BRIEFS

Directors warned on contract liability

A RECENT Court of Appeal decision means directors should take care when they sign contracts on behalf of companies – if they contain a misrepresentation bosses can be held personally liable.

Matthew Dugdale, of Chatham-based Kingsley Smith Solicitors, said: "Personal liability can arise where a director makes a fraudulent misrepresentation on which another person relies and which induces that person to sign the contract. That the contract may not benefit the director is not a defence."

In a recent case, a company entered into a contract to pay for goods it then received. A director signed the contract knowing the company was insolvent and would be unable to pay for the goods.

The court ruled the director had made an implied misrepresentation to the supplier. Since he knew the goods would not be paid for, it found him personally liable as a result of his deceit.

The Companies Act 2006 places a statutory duty on directors to keep to certain standards and consider the effects of their decisions.

Part-time, non-executive or even 'shadow' directors can be in the firing line when things go wrong just as much as full-time directors.

Runway success

BIGGIN Hill airport is sponsoring the junior section of local athletics club Blackheath and Bromley Harriers.

The junior men's and women's team, sporting the airport logo on their new kit, recently successfully defended their UK champions title at the National Junior Athletic League final. The club also gained second place in the National Young Athletes final in Manchester.

Healthy support

HEALTHCARE firm Pfizer, which has its European headquarters at Sandwich, has given £30,000 to support three Kent organisations.

Its community fund donated £15,000 to the Pipeline Youth Initiative; Carers' Voice received £5,000; and £10,000 went to the NCH Family Support Services' Impact project.

Churchill was a man of culture and taste

By **TONY PATEY**
tony.patey@kosmedia.co.uk

ANY beer recommended by Sir Winston Churchill, well known for his love of the hop and the grape, must have been good.

And it has helped serve up a good business for Robert Wicks.

Sir Winston liked the old Black Eagle beers, from the brewery of the same name which was swallowed up by the big boys in 1965.

As luck would have it, the brewery freeze-dried samples of its yeasts, and when Mr Wicks gave up a career in investment banking he combined the cultures with water from the same aquifer.

In 2004 he founded the Westerham Brewery in a 1950s dairy on a National Trust farm and since then has been brewing local beer for local people. Now the award-winning brewery is in the national spotlight again.



The BBC's Countryfile magazine selected the brewery as one of its 20 local food heroes for 2008 – its work with the National Trust hop garden at Scotney Castle was particularly noted.

It is also featured in the October edition of Waitrose's Country Living magazine, having been selected as one of the finalists in its Made in Britain Awards 2008.

Two bottled beers, British Bulldog and Little Scotney Best Bitter, went through several rounds of taste trials at Waitrose's head office before being selected from the 200-plus entries.

Mr Wicks said: "Back in 1959, after the takeover by Taylor Walker, the Black Eagle Brewery deposited freeze-dried samples of their yeasts with the National Collection of Yeast Cultures, no doubt sensing it might be lost for ever. We revived those yeast cultures."

Believe it or not, Mr Wicks has been brewing since he was eight years old – but if your godfather was Dick Theakston, a member of the mighty Yorkshire beer dynasty and a keen home-brewer, you might understand.

His brewery is at Grange Farm, Crockham Hill, near Edenbridge, and he is very selective about where he gets his hops.

At nearby Scotney Castle, colleague Ian Strang produces Target hops which are used in his Grasshopper and Little Scotney Ales.

It is the last hop garden in Lamberhurst and this year he secured funding to plant some of the garden with new varieties and will be attempting organic production methods.



A CUT ABOVE: Hairdressing duo Steve O'Rourke and Sam Cooper

Steve and Sam trim profits to help hospice

BEARSTED-based SO Hairdressing – proprietors, Steve O'Rourke and Sam Cooper – is celebrating its first year in operation with a donation to the Heart of Kent Hospice.

Mr O'Rourke said: "All clients who book an appointment on Wednesday, October 22, will be contributing to the hospice because we will be donating 25 per cent of all fees taken on that day."

Since opening, the number of staff has grown from six to 15 and already there are plans to build an extension to provide space for another six or seven stations.

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BUSINESS BRIEFS

LAW firm Furley Page, in partnership with the Thames Gateway Chamber, is presenting the first of three interactive workshops on Wednesday.

The aim is to give employers a comprehensive insight into employment law.

Three specialist lawyers from the firm's employment team and an HR expert will lead the workshop, which is being held at the firm's office at the Clocktower Building, Chatham Historic Dockyard.

The format is part seminar, part question and answer session. To book, email Sharon Hogbin at shogbin@tgcoc.co.uk or call 01634 311441.

AWARD-winning pub the Rose and Crown at Perry Wood, near Selling, is one of only a handful in the country to pick up a silver Green Tourism Business Scheme Award.

It is already noted for quality food, its gardens in summer, and a roaring log fire in winter, plus good beer. The licensee is Tim Robinson and the pub was Camra Swale Joint Pub of the Year 2000.

Firms are crucial links in new diploma chain

SOUTH East manufacturers are being urged to invest in the future by working with schools and colleges on a pioneering new qualification.

The diploma in manufacturing and product design, due for launch in September 2009, is one of the Government's new flagship qualifications for 14 to 19-year-olds.

It has been designed to equip young people with the skills and knowledge needed to pursue a career in industry and will be delivered by consortia – approved partnerships of schools, colleges and employers – in 27 areas across England in its first year.

Over the next two months, manufacturing companies from the South East have the opportunity to join new consortia bidding to start teaching the diploma from September, 2010.

By **TONY PATEY**
tony.patey@kosmedia.co.uk

"This is a unique opportunity for businesses to help shape the workforce of tomorrow," said Helen King, project leader of the diploma development team.

"Manufacturing is a major employer but companies have long spoken of the problems they face attracting young people into the sector, and about the difficulties of finding skilled recruits.

"The diploma offers the chance for employers to take action by engaging directly with young people while they are still in learning.

Brightest

"This early contact with young people will help businesses get a head start in picking out the brightest talents and will mean they are directly involved in developing a pool of well-informed, proactive, motivated potential employees at the earliest stage."

The diploma has been developed in conjunction with leading manufacturers to ensure the content is relevant to industry.

Taught alongside GCSEs and A levels, it will focus on three core themes – product design and science, business and enterprise, and production systems – with the option to study different manufacturing sub-sectors in more depth.

The groundbreaking method will allow students to apply theory learned in the classroom to real-work environments, for example by spending time in specialist colleges with high-spec manufacturing facilities and in the workplace.

A minimum of 10 days' work experience is an essential part of the diploma.

"Not all companies will be asked to offer work experience placements," said Ms King.

"We appreciate smaller businesses may not have the resources to do so. However, there are plenty of other ways to get involved, such as advising teachers and tutors on industry practices, delivering talks and lectures, hosting site visits and helping set project work. Whatever the involvement, this is too good an opportunity to miss."

The diploma will be available at three levels – foundation, higher and advanced. In addition to teaching principles of manufacturing industry, it covers English, maths and ICT, and offers students the opportunity to pursue areas of specific interest through additional and specialist learning options.

Depending on the level and pathways followed, the diploma will prepare young people for employment, to undertake an apprenticeship, or go into further or higher education.

The formal application process for new consortia wishing to deliver the diploma, which is known as the gateway process, will close on November 26. For further information, visit the employers' section of the DCFS website at www.dcsf.gov.uk/14-19/employers.

Employers can also contact their local education bsiness partnership (www.nebpn.org) for information about working with schools and colleges. The diploma is part of the second phase of a total of 17 new diplomas which will be available to all young people in England by 2013.

It has been developed by the five sector skills councils representing manufacturing employers in the UK – Improve, Proskills, Cogent, Semta and Skillfast-UK. Visit www.manufacturingdiploma.co.uk for more information.

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Make the most of staff skills

KENT employers are missing out by failing to make the best of staff training investments and workforce skills, says Ashford-based specialist Calibre HR and Training.

It says that while all firms are making themselves efficient and effective in a stormy economic climate, its experience of the SME – small and medium-sized enterprises – market suggests too few are taking advantage of their human assets.

Director Tara Lloyd said: "Employers spend about £300 on training for each employee a year, yet only half use techniques to capitalise on that learning afterwards.

"If skills are not reviewed within four months, they will be gone. Not only is that a waste of money, but the company will continue to lack the skills it needs."

"It is hard for all businesses in tricky economic times to invest in training – sometimes the money is just not there. This means it is even more important to tap into what you already have."

Calibre HR & Training has published a free factsheet available at www.calirehr.com to help employers get the most from existing and planned training and identify other workforce skills that could benefit the business.



TARA LLOYD: 'Skills must be reviewed'



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'Greenspin' gestures will not be enough

SUSTAINABLE business expert Envirowise is warning South East companies not to get swept away by 'greenspin' – and urge directors to think small as well as build an eco-friendly image.

Envirowise says many companies are attracted by the visible end of green business – for example switching car fleets to hybrid or low-carbon vehicles or offsetting carbon emissions – and don't realise that simple low and no-cost measures could be equally effective.

Marketing director Mary Leonard said: "While making green statements is commendable, too many companies are ignoring the basics and forming their environmental policies on 'greenspin' – initiatives that will make them look good publicly but, in isolation, won't help the company achieve the biggest impact on day-to-day green performance."

Landscape

The warning comes at a time when many companies will be planning for 2009 and should be considering ways of boosting their environmental performance, as well as keeping operational costs down in the face of global economic uncertainty and a weakening currency.

Ms Leonard said: "The increasing costs of utilities and materials have a dramatic effect on the UK's corporate and industrial landscape.

"While it is extremely important for businesses to take steps and show how committed they are to improving environmental performance, this need not be linked to making grand gestures.

By simply reviewing how the use of resources can be reduced, and where waste can be reused and recycled, both financial and environmental benefits can be achieved."

Envirowise issues a number of free initiatives, toolkits and guides to help businesses improve environmental performance and resource efficiency.



ALL WRITE: Richard Holme of Creaseys

Creaseys partners create tax guides

TUNBRIDGE Wells chartered accountants Creaseys LLP has boosted its reputation as one of the leading authorities on tax in the country after the recent publication of two definitive guides on tax legislation.

Tax partners Richard Holme and Janet Paterson have collaborated to write Tolley's Property Tax Planning and Tolley's Tax Digest on the new remittance rules.

Primarily aimed at other tax professionals, the publications analyse the legislation and provide clear and effective guidance on giving the best advice. Creaseys is a past winner of the Butterworths Tolley Tax Award for the best tax team in a small to medium-sized practice in the UK.

Chief executive Emma Roberts – believed to be the only female chief executive of such a firm – said: "We are delighted to have partners of the calibre of Janet and Richard in the firm.

"The fact that they are so highly regarded in the profession is testament to the quality of advice we offer to our clients."

To obtain a copy of either publication, contact Sara Ratcliffe at Creaseys on 01892 546546.

Protect your bottom line at minimal cost

KENT businesses concerned about the impact of the economic downturn are being encouraged to think about minimising the use of resources to make cost savings and protect the bottom line.

By **TONY PATEY**
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Business Link, the free business information and advisory service, is offering guidance on reducing energy costs, as well as tips on energy saving.

Business Link's Erica Russell said: "When money is tight there are many ways in which being more environmentally friendly will really help your bottom line.

"Cutting even a few hundred pounds of costs from your business – and this need not affect the level of customer service – is equivalent to thousands of pounds of extra sales.

"Start by considering your energy use and transport costs, as these are two large areas that you can make savings in quickly."

Elaine Sharp, Envirowise programme manager, said: "The economic climate requires us to be wise spenders both as individuals and business people. Getting started on the road to resource efficiency can be simple and straightforward.

"And while senior management buy-in is crucial to success, the fact is that any member of staff in an organisation – at any level – can make a positive difference."

Business Link suggests the following low and no-cost tips to help businesses take steps to lower their environmental impact:

- Get staff to switch off computers, lights and high-energy guzzlers such as electric tea or coffee machines or speakers. Taking these basic steps can cut energy costs by 10-20 per cent.
- Consider investing in more efficient equipment, as older pieces use more energy. If financing is an issue, you may be eligible for a Carbon Trust interest-free loan.
- For many small companies delivering goods or running company cars has really begun to hit the bottom line. Make sure all deliveries or sales team routes are planned to keep mileage as low as possible. If you run a fleet of more than 50 cars or trucks, get a free green review from the Energy Saving Trust. Also, train drivers to use minimal fuel. Drivers who have been through a Safe and Fuel Efficient Driving (Safed) training course use on average 18 per cent less fuel, which equates to a £500 saving per driver each year.
- Try to substitute some face-to-face meetings for web-based video conference calls. This will also help you to keep down your carbon emissions by reducing travel.
- If you are questioning the need for business premises, consider working from home. Network with colleagues and have a dedicated space you can use for catch-up meetings. Offering flexible hours so staff can work from home will also reduce their carbon footprint and can improve productivity and motivation.
- Strive to be a paperless office. Encourage staff to minimise the amount of printing in the first instance but also make changes to extend toner life and reduce paper use. Change the print default settings so that the quality is always 'draft' and opt to print on both sides.

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M'learned friend is your friend too

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS



When facing legal problems, many people are put off either because of costs or there's too much detail. That's when they need a legal friend.

Tanja Suessenbach, pictured, was a high-flying law student who decided she wanted to help people who might be vulnerable, discriminated against or unjustly treated. She set up mylegalfriend.com to deal with any kind of legal problem, big or small, from legal letters to checking forms, right through to giving litigant-in-person support, and being a litigation manager for companies.

She also makes sure people say the right things in court or at tribunals, so they are able to put the right legal points across – for example, in witness statements, affidavits, skeleton arguments, case summaries, or submissions. She spoke to Business Editor Tony Patey.

Q What is your background in law?

A I took a law degree at King's College London. In my second year, I won first prize at the International Intellectual Property Moot at Oxford University and in my third year won first prize at the UK Environmental Law Junior Moot.

I achieved a distinction in my masters in international and comparative business law, while being awarded a scholarship and honorary membership by the Intellectual Property Institute London.

Q What made you start up mylegalfriend.com?

A I consider it of utmost importance to protect basic rights, to ensure people are informed about their rights and have access to the court process to sort out disputes, thereby preventing social exclusion.

However, there are many people, whose voices simply are not heard and who suffer from injustice, as they cannot afford high legal costs.

We believe in ethical values, the protection of vulnerable and discriminated or unjustly treated individuals and are there to support them.

Quite often people are afraid when faced with legal problems. They may wish there was someone like a friend who can explain what statutory provisions or common law rights they may have and which can be evoked and how to go about it.

Equally, there is a great need to have a legal friend who not only knows about the legal issues but also encourages you to stay positive throughout what can be very hard and troublesome times.

It is also often not worth pursuing a legal problem as solicitors' costs are greater than the value of the claim.

We provide the public with all the legal support necessary to defend their rights more effectively and offer a guiding hand throughout the entire legal process so you are not by yourself, even if you do not have much money or just do not want to pay as much. Mylegalfriend.com aims at enabling people to seek justice at an affordable rate and thereby increase equality and protect democratic values.

Q How do your charges differ?

A We charge an hourly rate of £49.50 and also offer an individualised membership fee, which is tailored to the specific needs and requirements of our clients.

Q How has trade been, and what would you say were your major victories?

A Trade is steadily increasing, as mylegalfriend.com is not just a business, but really about having a legal friend who is always there.

My major victories have been helping to root out discrimination and enabling individuals to win and defend themselves successfully.

Q What is your view about the industry in general in the current economic downturn?

A It would be naive to think the issues of the banking industry will not affect the legal industry, which gains lucrative contracts from banking transactions and deals.

Insolvency practitioners may benefit from the downturn. However, other legal practitioners may not be too confident about the future, especially in light of the implementation of the Legal Services Act 2007.

Liquidity problems may lead to more risk-adverse behaviour and this may also mean less litigation.

Q How do you relax?

A I have been playing the piano and violin since I was five and also enjoy opera singing.

Music is my passion. It relaxes me. I also compose songs in my leisure time.





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Science park firm earns deep-rooted endorsement

By **TONY PATEY**
tony.patey@kosmedia.co.uk

A KENT Science Park company is the first in the country to receive an endorsement for a plant and soil treatment from the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS), the UK's leading gardening organisation.

The RHS took the unprecedented step after personal recommendations from gardeners who have been using the treatment in its gardens, such as Wisley, over the last eight years.

It is called Rootgrow and was developed by PlantWorks. It harnesses the symbiotic power of mycorrhizal fungi to help plants establish a healthy root network and create a secondary root system so plants can extract nutrients and hold onto water in difficult soil conditions.

The company is now established at the forefront of research and development in the growth, production, application and marketing of mycorrhizal fungi-based products worldwide.

RHS gardeners praised the product, which is endorsed by the Soil Association, after they found that plants treated with it have better developed root systems, more vigour and are more able to cope with drought.

They lobbied the licensing section of the RHS and, after a lengthy process, the endorsement came through.

Robert Patten, managing director, said: "The endorsement is testament not only to the extremely high quality of our product, but also to the hard work of our scientists and their collaboration with the RHS. Since we arrived at Kent Science Park in 2000 we have become a world leader in our industry, with an unparalleled library of mycorrhizal fungi which can be tailored to improving the growing conditions on any continent."

James Speck, site director at Kent Science Park, near Sittingbourne, said: "Mycorrhizal fungi products can be applied to a single garden or to the landscaping of massive infrastructure projects, such as the Channel Tunnel rail link.

"As a result, PlantWorks has huge potential to grow and we are delighted they are based at the park."

Rootgrow products are available in 150g pouches from nearly 700 garden centres across the country.



GROWTH INDUSTRY: RHS gardeners were impressed by the power of Rootgrow

A NEW guide to helping businesses look at how they can minimize resources going into packaging has just been released.

The Industry Council for Packaging and the Environment and sustainable business experts at Envirowise have collaborated on the guide to help product and packaging designers, as well as marketing managers and buyers, to improve the sustainability of their packaging, optimise costs and focus on achieving environmental aims.

It's called PackGuide: A Guide to Packaging Eco-Design and is available on request via the Envirowise advice line on 0800 585794; or visit www.envirowise.gov.uk/GG908

Fruitful venture as Kiwi chef settles on Brogdale



SCOTT ANDERSON: Basing his business at Brogdale was a 'natural decision'

ONE of Kent's leading chefs, Scott Anderson, has opened a new catering business at Brogdale Farm – and it was straight down to business the day after it opened with a wedding for 120 guests.

The business offers a full range of services including outside catering for weddings, anniversaries, parties and corporate functions such as product launches, conferences, summer balls and Christmas parties.

Mr Anderson also does private cooking lessons and food demonstrations for individuals and groups.

He was commissioned by Brogdale, home of the national fruit collection at Faversham, for all the food demonstrations at its fruit festivals in 2008. The next event is the apple festival on October 18-19.

New Zealand-born Mr Anderson came to London in 2001, joining the Payne and Gunter catering company where he gained experience cooking for royalty and celebrities.

He now develops food for Marks & Spencer and he has set up Scott Anderson Ltd to "share his knowledge and love of food with a wider audience and provide people with the tools they need to create delicious food".

He said: "Basing our business at Brogdale was an easy and natural decision, it's such a foodie place with Faversham Market Square and the national fruit collection on our doorstep.

"We wanted a location that complemented our business and was simple to reach from the motorway for clients.

"It's also easy for us to get to venues such as Bradbourne House in East Malling, where we are sole caterers, the Old Kent Barn in Swingfield, and private marquees through Kent, Surrey, Sussex and London."

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OD: £1,759

BRISTOL & WEST
RT: FIXED **R%:** 5.69% **L:** 75% **U:** 31/10/2011
OD: £1,514

ABBEY
RT: FIXED **R%:** 5.74% **L:** 75% **U:** 02/01/2011
OD: £1,515

PRINCIPALITY
RT: FIXED **R%:** 5.89% **L:** 75% **U:** 31/10/2011
OD: £1,335

OTHER

CHELTENHAM & GLOUCESTER
RT: TRACKER **R%:** 4.99% **L:** 75% **U:** 31/10/2010
OD: £2,634

ABBEY
RT: TRACKER **R%:** 5.69% **L:** 75% **U:** 2 YEARS
OD: £2,210

SCOTTISH WIDOWS BANK
RT: TRACKER OFFSET **R%:** 5.75% **L:** 75% **U:** 3 YEARS **OD:** £2,699

NATIONWIDE
RT: TRACKER **R%:** 5.63% **L:** 75% **U:** 2 YEARS
OD: £2,019

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Refurbishing need not be an ordeal

IT CAN be a financial pain when your company needs to relocate or refurbish office premises.

Office refurbishments can cost an arm and a leg from even the most cost-effective contractors. And given the credit crunch, these costs go even higher.

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NORWICH UNION	£33.18	BRIGHT GREY	£44.23	AXA	£63.65	AXA	£99.25
BRIGHT GREY	£33.71	AXA	£44.56	SCOTTISH PRVDNT	£64.11	BRIGHT GREY	£100.03
FRIENDS PROVIDENT	£33.73	SCOTTISH PRVDNT	£45.03	BRIGHT GREY	£64.40	FRIENDS PRVDNT	£101.11
BUPA	£34.36	FRIENDS PROVIDENT	£45.63	LV=	£65.27	ZURICH	£101.74
ZURICH	£35.12	LV=	£47.52	FRIENDS PROVIDENT	£66.07	LV=	£102.04
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Diagnostic test firm expands park operation

A COMPANY developing a system to speed up treatment times at doctors' surgeries is doubling the size of its operation.

Vivacta, a medical diagnostic company working on a highly sensitive point-of-care immunoassay system, is acquiring a further 6,000 sq ft at Kent Science Park, Sittingbourne.

The company, which already employs more than 20 people, says its highly sensitive piezo-film sensors will enable doctors to get results of patients' blood tests without samples having to leave the surgery.

Chief executive officer Neil Butler said the expansion will enable the development of a pilot manufacturing line for the sensors, which are disposable. It will also lead to new job opportunities at Vivacta.

Site director James Speck said: "Vivacta epitomises the growing community of ambitious technology companies with potential for rapid expansion that are choosing to be based here, which is great news for Swale and Kent as a whole."

Vivacta recently raised more than £6 million of finance to drive forward commercialisation.

The financing round was led by AGF Private Equity and HBM BioVentures with follow-on investment by Spark Ventures and Viking Technologies.



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Barham says he's par for the course

Golfer on course to retain Tour card

By TOM HOWARD

KENT golfer Benn Barham has stuck his neck out by claiming he has done enough to secure a Tour card for next season.

With just a handful of events left this season, the Ashford golfer is ranked 106th in the European Tour Order of Merit with only the top 117 guaranteed to ensure they keep their place for next season.

The 33-year-old, who recorded his best-ever finish on the Tour last season in 89th place, has admitted his season has been inconsistent.

Despite recording his best-ever result this season with a third place in July's Russian Open, Barham has recorded just five top-30 finishes.

However, the Kent golfer has earned 256,000 euros this year and feels that will be enough to net him a place next year.

Barham told Kent on Sunday: "I think looking back on the year I have been inconsistent. I have had good weeks, but I have also had bad weeks.

"I do not feel under pressure to secure my card. I think I have already done enough to enable myself to play on the European Tour. I have got three events to go and most people are saying that the 230,000 euros is the cut off point."

Next season will take a slightly different shape as many PGA Tour professionals could be switching to play on the European Tour.

Two of golf's biggest names, Phil Mickelson and Vijay Singh, are considering a move to the European Tour for next season and many PGA Tour players are likely to follow.

Barham believes a proposed influx of some of the world's best players to competitions next year will only benefit his game.

He said: "To have some of the biggest names playing regularly on the Tour would help my game. Another bonus if some of the top USA players come to the European Tour is more sponsors and bigger prize funds. It may help me attract more sponsors."

The Chart Hills Golf Club professional is already looking to next season and intends to work hard during the winter and study his performances, so he will not be fighting for survival.

He added: "I will sit down with my coach at the end of the year and work out where exactly I need to improve. Although I have had my best-ever result this season, I do not want to be fighting for survival, but challenging for two or three tournament wins next season."

This week Barham has been in action in the Madrid Masters.



Picture: GETTY IMAGES

PITCHING IN: Benn Barham is confident of retaining his place on the PGA European Tour

Shakey aiming for Brands victory lap

WITH the pressure of the title race over, newly-crowned British Superbike champion Shane 'Shakey' Byrne is hoping to finish his three-year spell in the series with a win at home circuit Brands Hatch today.

The Kent circuit will host the final round of the British Superbike Championship, but only the team's title is still up for grabs after Sheppey rider Byrne clinched his second BSB crown two weeks ago at Silverstone.

The 32-year-old, and Ashford-born team-mate Leon Camier, are determined to clinch the team title for Airwaves Ducati, but Byrne hopes he can sign off with a win in front of his home fans.

Byrne told Kent on Sunday: "It would be nice to finish the year off with a win. I have been trying so hard to get wins in the last few races and been trying to ride with the championship in mind so it has been a delicate balance. It will be nice to not have the pressure of the championship on my shoulders."

Byrne has as good a chance as any to win at the 1.2-mile circuit and has already picked up a victory at his home circuit in the rescheduled opening round of the championship in May.

After announcing a move to the World Superbikes Championship with Sterilgarda Ducati last week, Byrne puts an end to his affiliation with the British championship, but admits he will miss racing in England.

Byrne added: "I have spent a few years in the championship and there will be people and close friends that I will miss. A few of the riders are moving to World Superbikes with me so we will renew our battles there. I already have a few friends in the world series and am focusing my attentions on that now."



BACK HOME: Shane Byrne will be looking to finish off the British Superbikes season with a flourish at Brands Hatch

Dex heads to Antigua



CRICKET: Former Kent all-rounder Neil Dexter has completed his move from Kent to Middlesex and goes straight into the squad for the lucrative Stanford Super Series.

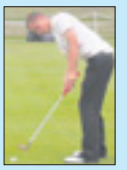
The 24-year-old spent much of this season on loan at Essex and turned down a new three-year contract at Kent last month in the hope of more regular cricket elsewhere.

At the time, Dexter said: "The last two seasons at Kent have been frustrating and a new county will give me greater opportunity to establish myself as a first-team player in all forms of the game."

His move to Middlesex is well-timed, with the Crusaders flying to Antigua this month.

Ed Joyce's side qualified to play England, Trinidad & Tobago and the Stanford Superstars after beating Kent Spitfires in the final of the Twenty20 Cup in July.

Harper on song



GOLF: Amateur golfer Liam Harper capped an impressive international debut by winning his singles match in England's win against Scotland at South Staffs Golf Club last Sunday.

The talented 15-year-old was called up to the England under-16s squad after impressing selectors by becoming the youngest player to play for his county's senior side earlier this year.

Harper didn't let the selectors down by beating Liam Johnston 3&1 in his singles match helping England to an 8-2 overall victory.

He will be looking to continue his form as part of the England team to take on Ireland at Bury St Edmonds next month.

Gills' Murphy mission



FOOTBALL: Gillingham manager Mark Stimson is trying to keep the development of some of his young stars under wraps, to ensure they do not follow Luke Freeman out of the club.

Freeman became the Gills' youngest-ever player when he made his debut as a 15-year-old last November, alerting several Premier League clubs.

He eventually moved to Arsenal for an undisclosed fee in January.

Tom Murphy (pictured), who is not 17 until December, came off the bench to make his debut in Tuesday night's 1-0 defeat to Colchester United in the Johnstone's Paint Trophy.

Stimson made it clear he was keen to hang on to Murphy, who he believes is just one of a good crop of youngsters in the club's youth set-up.

He said: "We are going to try and keep this one quiet for a period of time. There's a good group of young first years. There's four or five who are above the second years and that can only be good for the club."

Anyone for tennis?

WHEELCHAIR TENNIS: Wheelchair tennis will be on offer in Canterbury for the first time today with organisers hoping to capitalise on the successes made by the British team at the Beijing Paralympics last month.

Team GB finished second to the hosts in the overall medal table and won a gold and a bronze in wheelchair tennis.

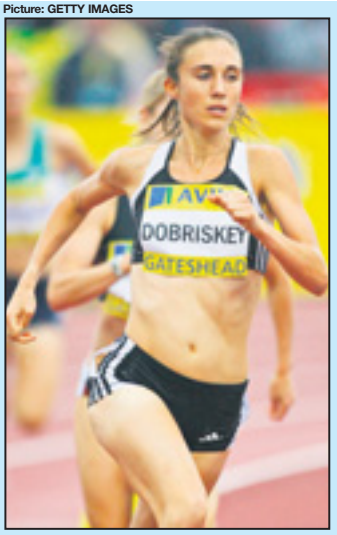
The Canterbury Indoor Tennis Centre at Polo Farm is hosting the free event. It is aimed at giving people with disabilities a chance to try out the sport and if successful it could lead to regular sessions.

Some of the best players in the world could use the facility in the future, with the venue shortlisted as a potential training camp ahead of the London Paralympics in 2012.

One of the fastest-growing wheelchair sports in the world, it uses the same court and equipment as the able-bodied game. The only rule change allows the ball to bounce twice before players hit it back to their opponent.

The two-hour taster session begins at 2pm.

Picture: GETTY IMAGES



SPRINT: Big finish saw Lisa Dobriskey retain her Great North Run mile title

Poorly Lisa still runs a Great race

DESPITE suffering from a cold, Lisa Dobriskey retained her Great North Run mile title with a storming sprint finish in her final event of the season last Saturday.

The Ashford athlete, who won the prestigious Fifth Avenue New York mile last month, came through to clinch the win in the last 300 metres ahead of Ukrainian Anna Mischenko and Slovenia's Sonia Roman.

Dobriskey retained her title by a slim margin of 0.7 seconds in the wet conditions at Newcastle & Gateshead quay sides, posting a time of four mins 37.8 seconds.

The 24-year-old was delighted to retain her title in one of her favourite events, but is looking forward to a well earned rest from her long, hard Olympic season.

She said: "It was the perfect way to end the season and now I can have a rest which will be nice. It was such a horrible day but I came through it and I really wanted to win so I was glad when I crossed the line.

"I came down with a cold after the New York mile which didn't help my preparation. I think it was due to all the travelling I have been doing. I think it was my body's way of telling me I need a rest and to let go."

The year has been a roller coaster for the 1500m runner, who has dealt with the joys of qualifying for the Olympics and the despair of finishing fourth and missing out on a medal in the 1500m final at the Beijing Olympics in August.

The victory in the Great North Run marked the end of Dobriskey's season which she describes as her breakthrough year as an athlete.

The 1500m Commonwealth champion, who began her athletic career at Ashford Athletics Club, will return to the Julie Rose Stadium to start the Givaudan 10k race today.

McLaren will not drive off, say Kent

Club turn down request to play for the South Africans

By GLENN PEARSON

KENT all-rounder Ryan McLaren will be honouring his contract with the county after the club refused to allow him to join up with the South Africa one-day team.

The 25-year-old South African signed a Kolpak deal with Kent earlier in the summer to keep him at the club for the next three years. The terms of such a deal mean McLaren would not be able to play for South Africa, but would in time be permitted to play for England – similar to the Kevin Pietersen scenario.

However, the news that McLaren was picked by South Africa to play in the One-Day International series against Bangladesh and Kenya and in a Twenty20 game, had left Kent in a dilemma.

McLaren was apparently keen to realise his international ambitions with the Proteas, but Kent issued a statement on Friday which ruled out any hope of McLaren playing for his country.

Chief executive Paul Millman said: "We have been in regular discussions with Ryan and his agent, Arthur Turner, over the last few days following Cricket South Africa's approach to Ryan.

"He has always recognised the commitment he has made to Kent cricket and whilst we know that he is flattered by the approach from Cricket South Africa we are, of course, delighted that he has acknowledged that his contractual commitments to the club must stand."

After having lost the one-day series 4-0 against England this summer, South Africa are keen to blood some youngsters in their squad and coach Mickey Arthur was impressed with McLaren having seen him operate for Kent this season.

The Proteas' coach believes McLaren had the potential to feature for South Africa in Test cricket.

He said: "I don't see him [McLaren] only as a one-day player. He could definitely also play a role in the Test squad.

"I'm still not entirely happy with the four lower-order batsmen in our Test squad. McLaren at number eight would definitely help."

The all-rounder has proved a big hit at Kent and the news he will be staying at Canterbury will help ease the blow of having recently lost Matt Walker and Neil Dexter to Essex and Middlesex respectively.



Picture: ADY KERRY



IN THE MONEY: Matt Ford picked up £25,000 for win

In-form Ford lines up another victory

KENT golfer Matt Ford has continued his successful end to the season by claiming the PGA Southern Championship at Dale Hill Golf Club on Friday.

The Maidstone-based golfer picked up a cheque for £25,000 after coming through a tight finale at the East Sussex Golf Course designed by Ryder Cup winning captain Ian Woosnam.

The Tudor Park professional carded rounds of 66, 68 and 69 in the 54-hole tournament to take the title on seven-under par – a stroke ahead of South Winchester's Andrew Cloke.

Last year's PGA South Order of Merit winner Anthony Tarchetti, from Littlestone Golf Club, finished third on five-under par and has given up his title to Hampshire's James Ablett.

Ford has been playing most of his golf on the PGA Euro Pro Tour this season and has had a successful year.

The 30-year-old is fourth in the Order of Merit title race on the tour and still has a chance to clinch the overall prize with one tournament left of the calendar.

Ford has won almost 23,000 euros on the tour, which has included six top-ten finishes including a victory at the Brooks Brothers Classic at Five Lakes Golf Club at Colchester.

After a second-place finish in the Ladbrokescasino.com Masters in Spain last month, and Friday's PGA Southern Championship title triumph, Ford will be full of confidence for the Euro Pro tour finale in France on October 20.

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Crofts to leave Gills on a Bosman deal

Gills stalwart stripped of the captaincy

By **DAVID PRITCHARD**

ANDREW Crofts is set to leave Gillingham on a free transfer next summer according to Mark Stimson, who may not offer the midfielder a new contract without an improvement in performances.

The Priestfield boss opted to strip the 24-year-old midfielder of the captaincy this week in favour of full-back Barry Fuller, due to Crofts' prolonged slump in form.

The Chatham-born player, who missed yesterday's game against Morecambe due to an international call-up with Wales, was reportedly unhappy with the decision. His contract expires at the end of the season and he could now leave after nine seasons with Gills.

Stimson told Kent on Sunday he felt it was a risk worth taking.

"Yes, I think so," he said. "At the end of the day Andrew Crofts leaves here next year on a free transfer – that's the rules and regulations as a Bosman. His contract is up in the summer so we know then he can walk free.

"We are not worried about the summer, we are about now – we have got to perform now week in, week out. I just thought the captaincy might have just put a little bit more pressure on Andrew and he's not performing like I think he can."

Crofts came up through the youth ranks at Priestfield before making his debut in August 2000. He has made 189 appearances in all competitions for the club, scoring 19 goals.

A regular in John Toshack's Wales squads over the past year, he is likely to attract some interest from clubs in higher divisions when he becomes available on a free transfer. Stimson admitted he is virtually resigned to losing Crofts, even if the club make an immediate return to League One.

He said: "I think Andrew will leave in the summer. He wants to play at the highest level possible, so could he get better than League Two if we are still in it?

"He's probably looking at a higher division than us. Hopefully we are in League One next season and then we can say to him 'stay with us' if he is performing to what we need."

While Fuller was an unusual choice for many after featuring sporadically last season, the 24-year-old, from Ashford, has not missed a minute this season and has been one of the club's most consistent performers.

Fuller, who played under Stimson at Stevenage, admitted he was as surprised as anyone but is looking forward to his new role.

He said: "I'm a local lad and always looked out for their results, so to play for Gillingham is one honour but to lead them out is probably one of the best moments of my career.

"I don't think it's going to affect my game at all. It has always been within me to be a leader."



Picture: IGOR KUPCO



Picture: KEITH SLATER

DITCHED AND SWITCHED: Andrew Crofts (left) was stripped of Gills captaincy, with manager Mark Stimson handing the skipper's armband to Barry Fuller (right)

China could replace the Crucible

BARRY Hawkins believes it would be a shame if the World Snooker Championship was moved to China but would back the move if it was best for the sport's profile.

The sport's biggest tournament has always been held in the UK and since 1977 has been held at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield, which has become synonymous with snooker.

But this week Sir Rodney Walker, chairman of the game's governing body, the World Snooker Association, said it was possible it could be moved when the contract runs out in 2010.

China is a booming market for snooker and moving the World Championship would help capitalise on that interest.

Dartford's Hawkins, who has just returned from the Shanghai Masters, has seen the enthusiasm first hand.

He said: "The opening ceremony must have cost them a fortune. The players arrived in pairs and walked along a red carpet throwing toys into a big crowd.

"I did feel like a professional sportsman whereas over here the fans don't seem to make much of a fuss. It's definitely getting more popular over there and I'm sure there will be more tournaments in China in the future.

"The Crucible is special, everybody knows snooker through watching the World Championships there. I would rather it stays here but if the best thing for the sport is to move it to China, then that's what we have to do."

Despite a first round exit in Shanghai, Hawkins has made a good start to the season and reached the quarter-finals of the Northern Ireland Trophy, where he was narrowly edged out by Ronnie O'Sullivan.

That result helped him climb back into the elite top 16 in the provisional rankings.

Yesterday he played close friend Joe Perry in the first round of the Grand Prix in Glasgow, where he reached the last 16 last season.

• ***Log on to www.kentnews.co.uk for the result.***



BEST OPTION: Barry Hawkins says moving World Championship to China could be good for snooker, although he would prefer the tournament to stay at the historic Crucible



DELAYED: Work on new-look St Lawrence

'A lot of clubs will be looking over their shoulders'

CONTINUED FROM BACK PAGE

save money until the economy improves.

While Fleet will remain full-time this season, Moules admitted it could be reviewed in the future if the slump is prolonged.

He said: "If it gets worse we may have to consider it but if we did we would have to consult all the management, staff and members before doing so.

"I think a lot of clubs will be looking over their shoulder. Clubs may have to return to being part-time and this could include clubs who have just been relegated from the Football League."

Kent County Cricket Club were due to start the re-development of their St Lawrence Ground at the start of the year. But the £10 million project, which includes plans to build a 130-room hotel and conference suites, have yet to get off the ground.

Difficulties

Kent's commercial director Jon Fordham told KoS earlier in the cricket season that building is likely to go ahead later in the year as the economic difficulties had halted their progress.

The credit crunch has also put big sporting events in doubt. The London Golf Club successfully hosted the European Open in July but face an anxious wait to see if they will retain the tournament as the European Tour searches for a sponsor for next year's event.

The Tour spent £3.7m to underwrite the costs of this year's Open, but are looking for a partner to bankroll the 2009 edition.

Heath Harvey, general manager at the London Club, told KoS nothing could happen until a sponsor was found.

He said: "I think it's about 110 per cent dependent on the sponsor, that's the true position of the tournament. As with every tournament the sponsor comes first and everything else is reliant on that. I think under the current climate it doesn't make it any easier."



FULL TIME: But the credit crunch may force Ebbsfleet United to rethink

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CRUNCH TIME FOR SPORT IN COUNTY

Credit crisis takes its toll on venues

By **TOM HOWARD** & **DAVID PRITCHARD**

AS THE effects of the credit crunch continue to deepen and permeate every sector of the economy, Kent's top sports venues are beginning to feel the pinch.

At Gillingham, attendances for their first four league matches were on average more than 1,200 lower than over the same period last season. While it equates to an alarming 20 per cent, much of the drop can be explained by the club's relegation into League Two, which means they have played teams such as Accrington Stanley and Grimsby compared to Leeds United and Brighton this time last year.

The club cut their season ticket prices this summer and attracted 3,200 fans, which is only slightly down on last season. With money received from television money also guaranteed by a contract, Gills are fairly insulated from the problems in key areas of their income.

Where the club have seen a change is in their corporate hospitality on match days, which has fallen by around 25 per cent.

Mark Jones, chief executive at Priestfield, told Kent on Sunday: "Companies are saying how can we continue to do this in the current climate, it's difficult for them.





TOUGH TIMES: Attendances are down at Gillingham (left) and the London Golf Club may not be able to host the 2009 European Open due to lack of a sponsor for next year's event

"The drop [in hospitality] doesn't help, it's significant but we have got to keep going. We have reduced our prices and added entertainment so we are trying different things to attract people."

At the moment the problems have not impacted on wage and transfer budgets on the playing side, but the club have undertaken some cost-cutting measures.

Penalties

Earlier this season they announced home fans would not be allowed to sit next to away fans in the Brian Moore Stand to reduce policing costs and while there have been no redundancies, Jones said when staff left the club they were not necessarily replaced.

Three clubs in Gillingham's division began the season with points penalties due to financial problems and Jones believes it could get worse for the sport as a whole.

He said: "All the clubs are feeling what we are feeling, whether they are bigger than us or smaller. It's difficult to say without seeing their accounts but it's possible a club could go into serious problems – some will find it hard."

Ebbsfleet United have managed to buck the trend with attendances almost doubling over the same period last season. The reason is most likely a dividend from the club's FA Trophy victory at Wembley in May, when an estimated 27,000 fans supported Liam Daish's side.

During the summer the club attempted to capitalise on the surge in support by offering those who went to Wembley discounts for the first six matches of the season.

Club chairman John Moules is happy with the figures so far but is nervous about the future.

He said: "I think the real test will be in the next few weeks. By Christmas we may well be affected as people may turn their attentions away from football. We will be doing all we can to try and entice them to still watch us."

The big decision for Fleet and the majority of clubs at their level is whether to stay full-time and retain the best chance of promotion to the Football League, or go part-time to

CONTINUED ON PAGE 71

Boss determined to beat boo boys

MARK Stimson insists he is not feeling the pressure from Gillingham fans and believes he is doing everything he possibly can to improve results.

Before yesterday's match against Morecambe, Gills had lost four of their last five matches, stalling their early season progress.

Following last weekend's 3-0 defeat at Exeter City, the Gills boss said 399 of the 400 travelling fans wanted him sacked. A week on, he admitted it was not something said in the heat of the moment.

Stimson told Kent on Sunday: "It's probably how I feel, but I am not going to let it affect me.

"Physically I don't think I can put anymore into it. We put on sessions which are fantastic for the players, we give them as much advice and encouragement as possible before they go on to the pitch and then that last one per cent you say to the players 'take that responsibility'."

There were boos from a section of fans at Priestfield after Tuesday night's 1-0 cup defeat to Colchester, but Stimson claims it did not bother him.

He said: "Supporters are fickle. If you win a game you're the best thing since sliced bread, if you lose two games you should be sacked, it's all your fault and someone else should come in. At the moment that seems to be the trend in management.

"I'm aware of that but my beliefs won't change and I have confidence in what we have set out to do. I will keep doing what I'm doing until I'm told differently."



UNFAZED: Mark Stimson Picture: IGOR KUPCO

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